

DEMON SLAYER

KIMETSU NO YAIBA

1

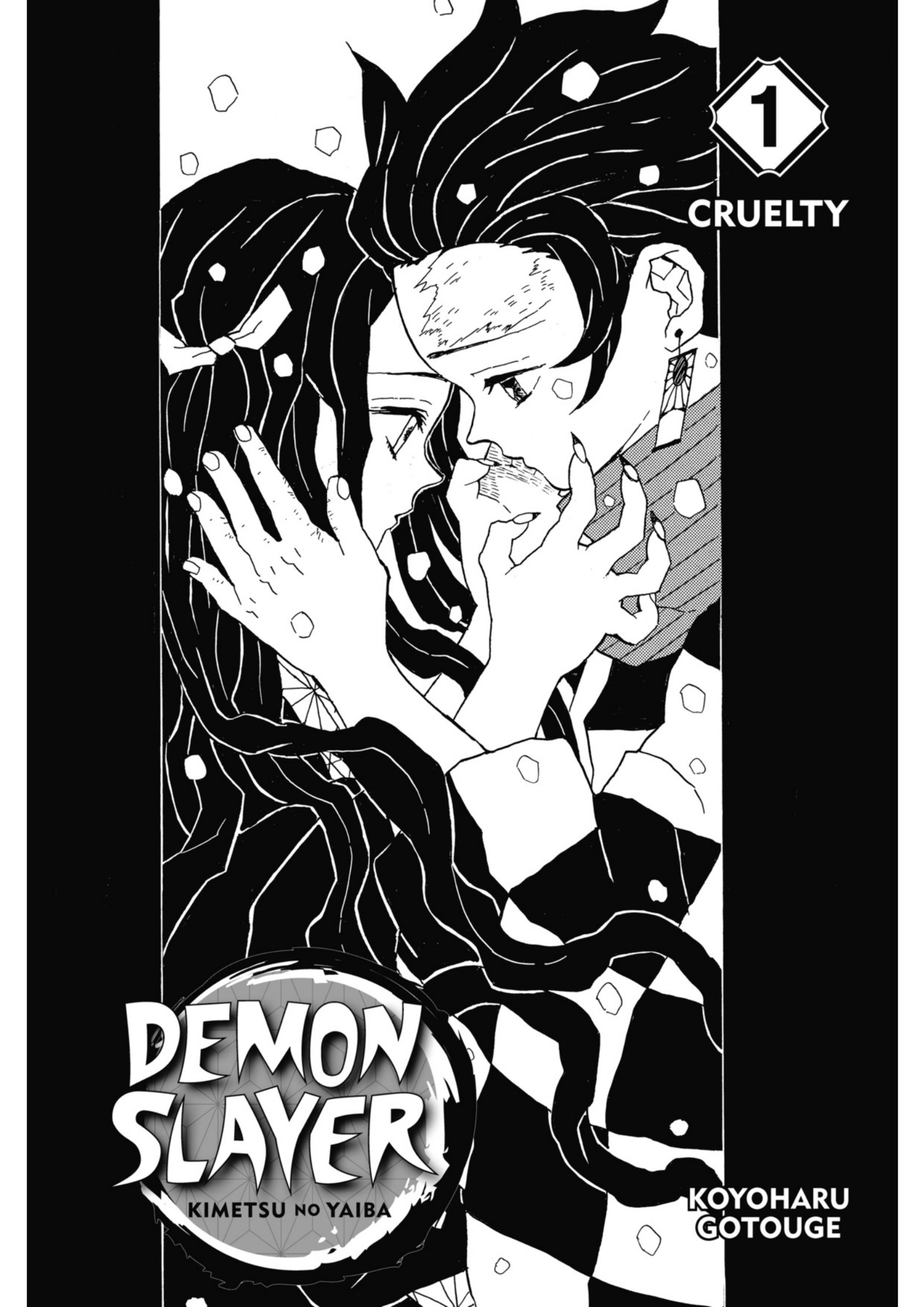
Story and Art by

**KOYOHARU
GOTOUGE**



KOYOHARU GOTOUGE

They're publishing a graphic novel by me! Thank you! And heartfelt thanks to all the readers, my editors over the years, my assistants, everyone in the *Jump* editorial department, everyone at the printer, the people who designed the book, and the many other people who have offered their help!



1

CRUELTY

DEMON SLAYER

KIMETSU NO YAIBA

KOYOHARU
GOTOUGE

**DEMON SLAYER:
KIMETSU NO YAIBA
VOLUME 1**

Shonen Jump Edition

Story and Art by
KOYOHARU GOTOUGE

KIMETSU NO YAIBA

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Teen and recommended for ages 13 and up. This
volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.

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CRUELTY



*HOW DID
THIS
HAPPEN?!*

CHAPTER 1: CRUELTY



YOUR BIG
BROTHER IS
DEFINITELY
GOING TO
SAVE YOU!



NEZUKO
...

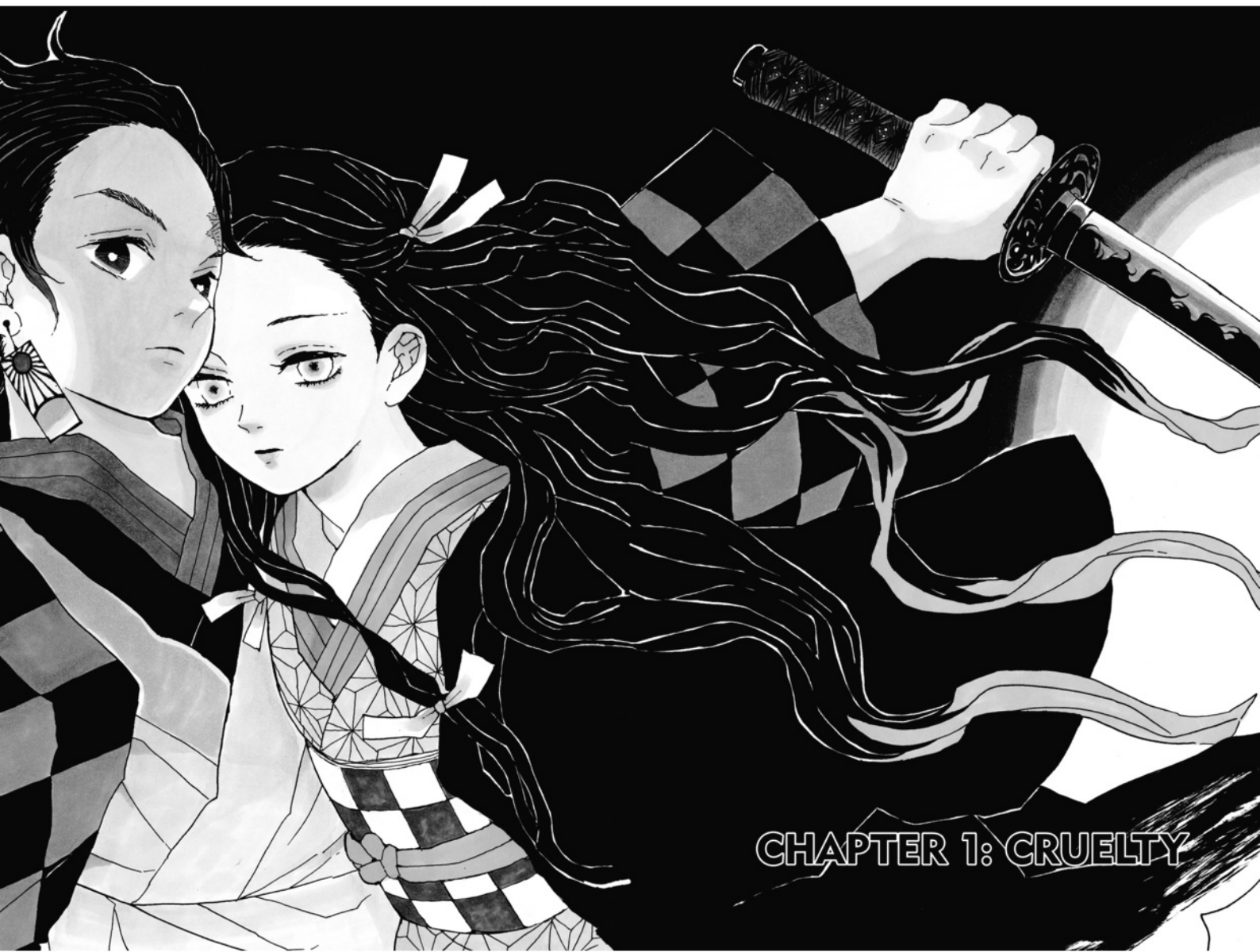
DON'T
DIE.

DON'T
DIE.



YOU
CAN'T
DIE.

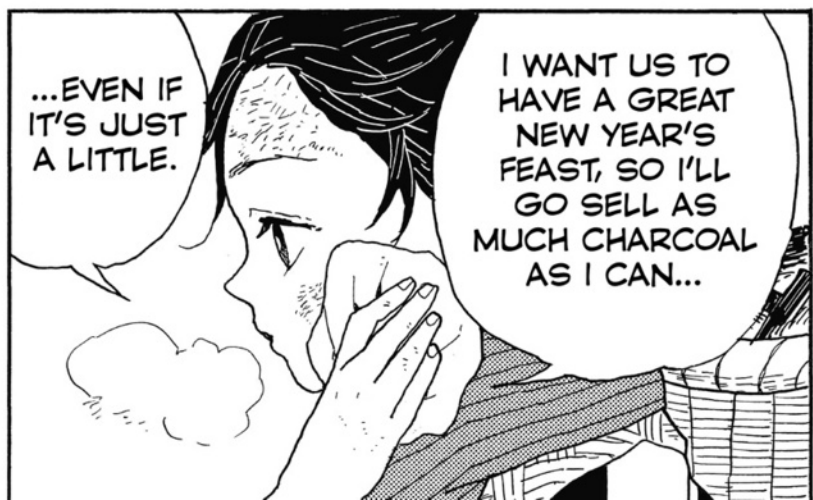
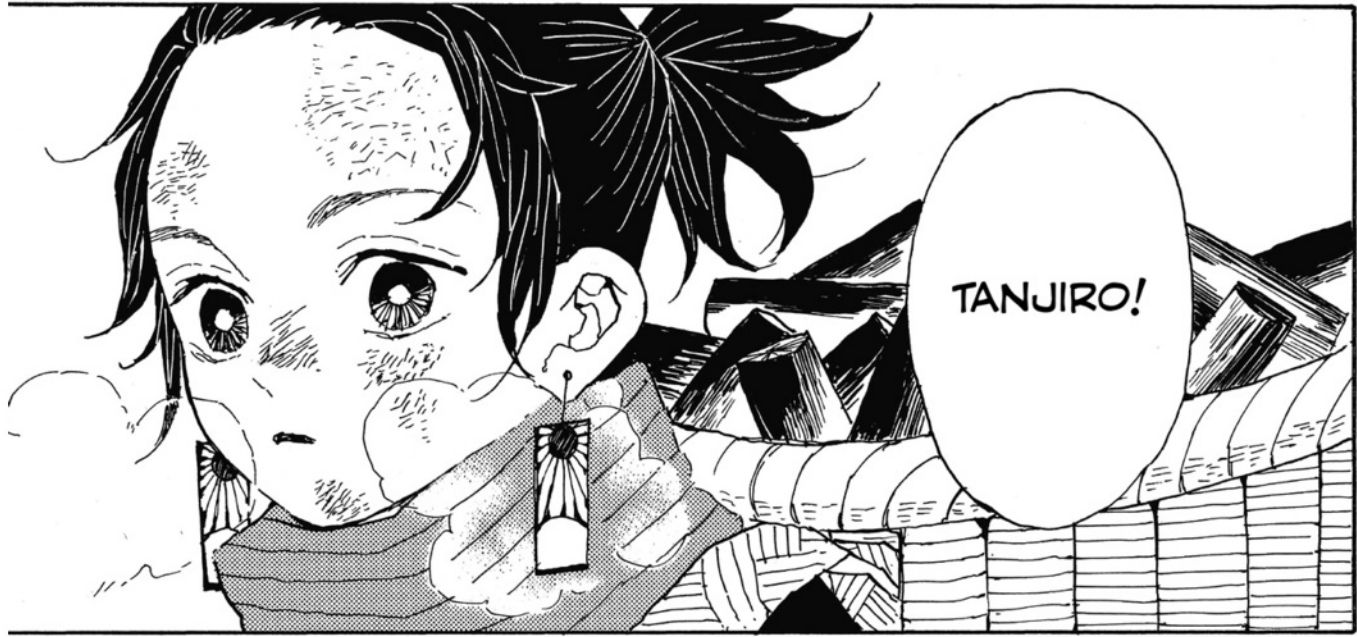
I'M
GONNA
SAVE
YOU.

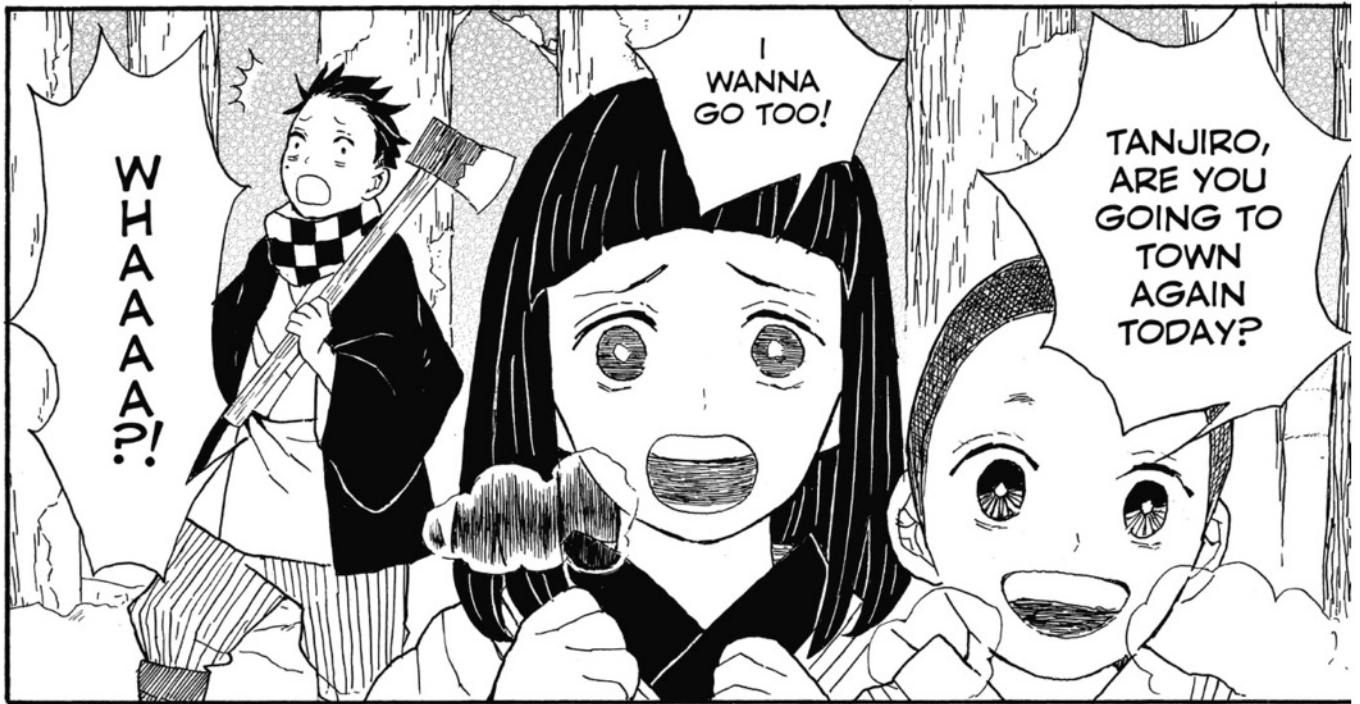


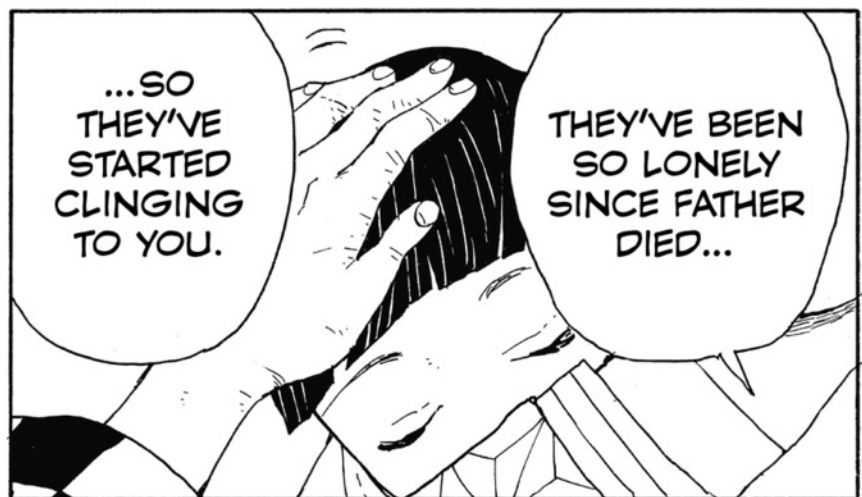
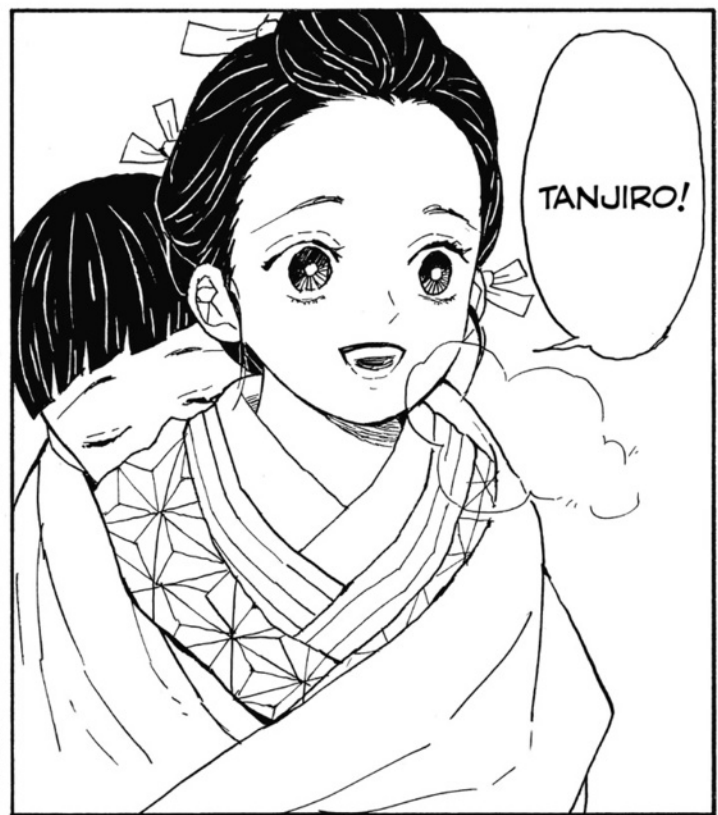
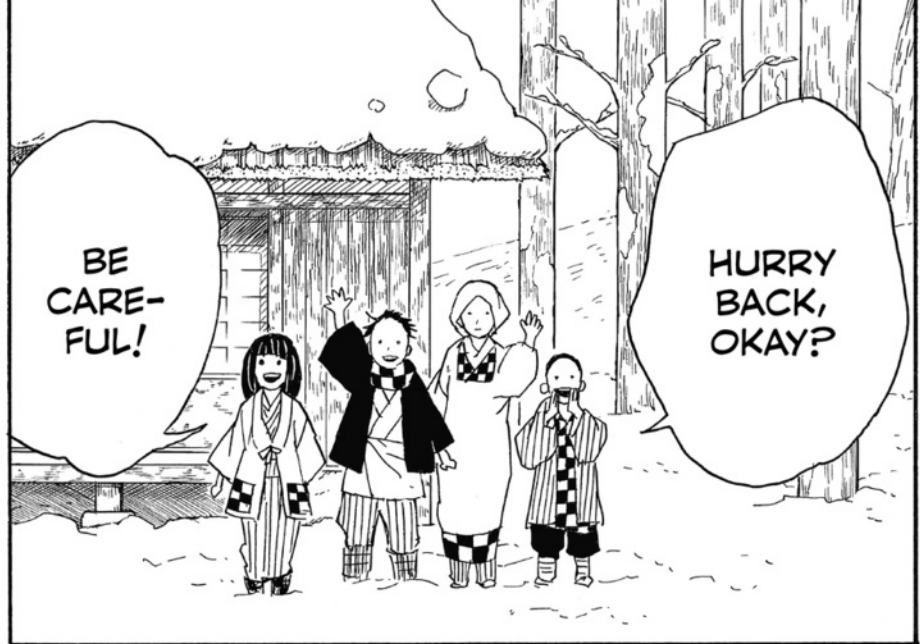
CHAPTER 1: CRUELTY

DEMON SLAYER

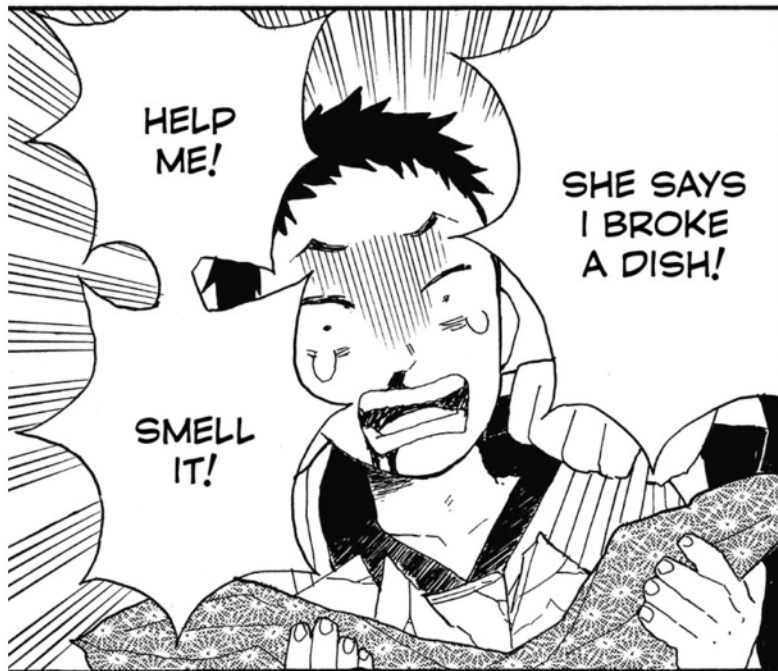
KIMETSU NO YAIBA

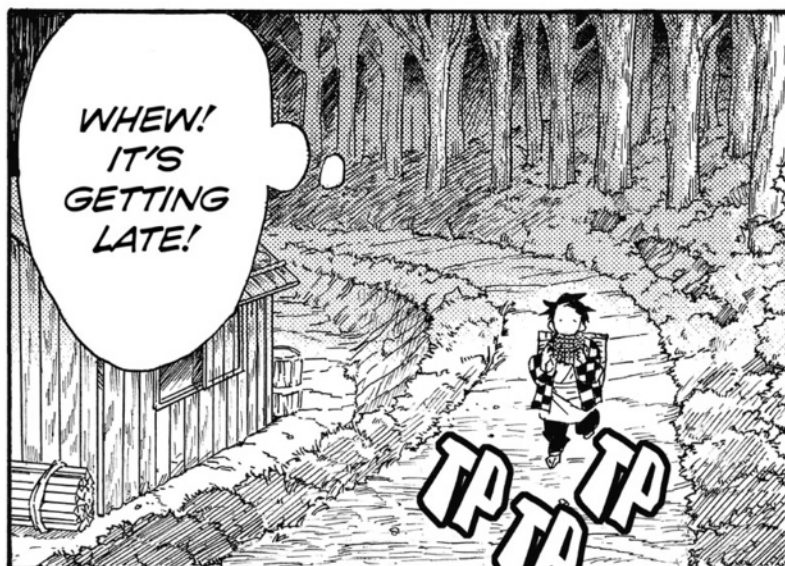


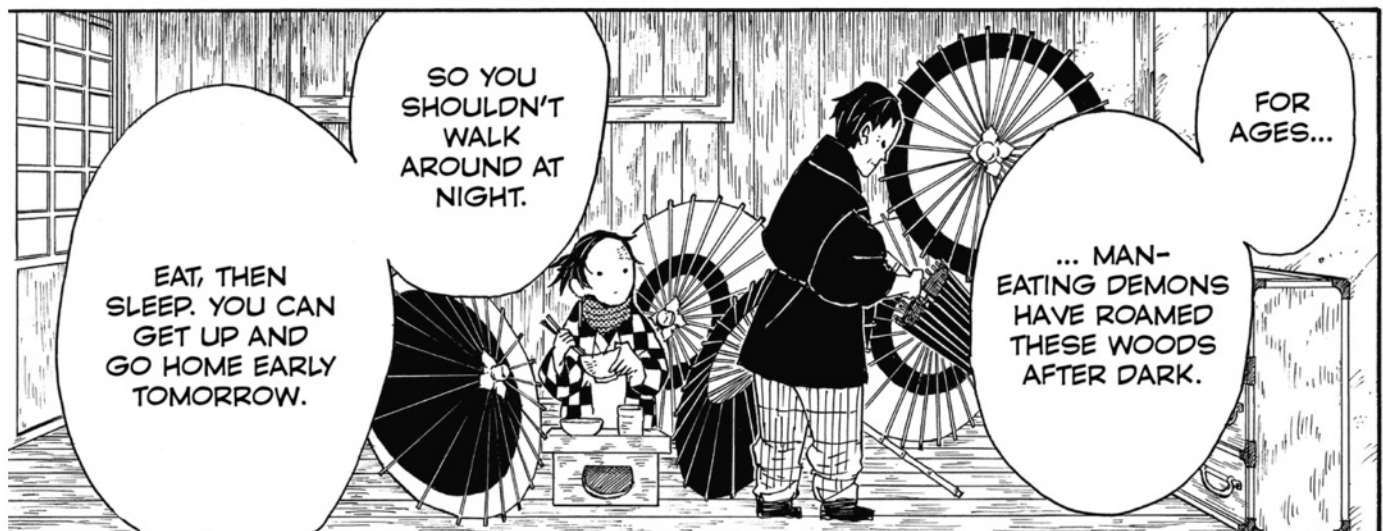


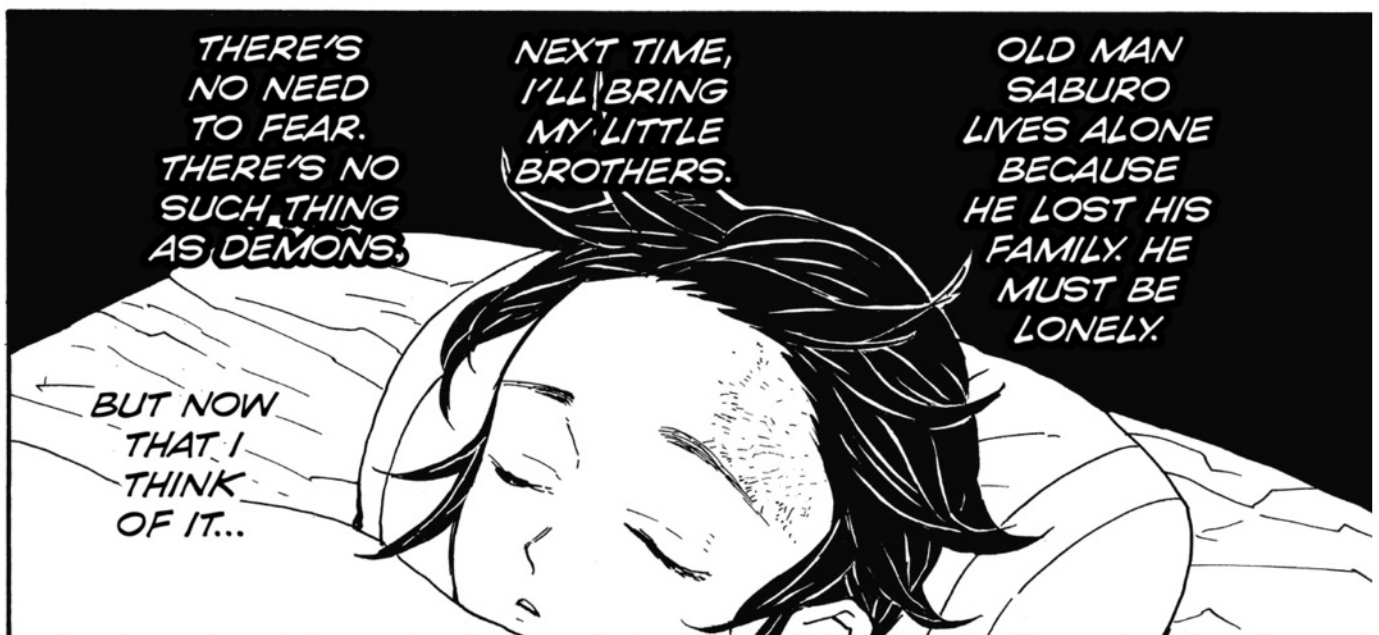






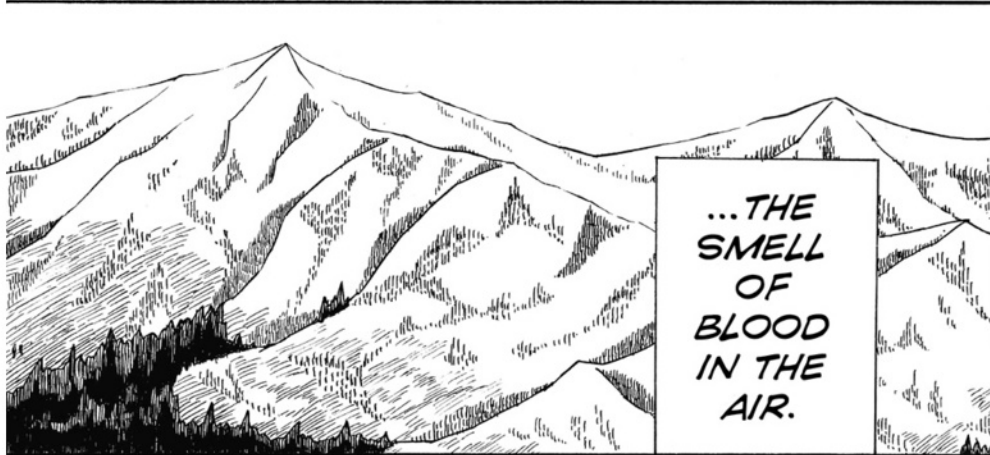






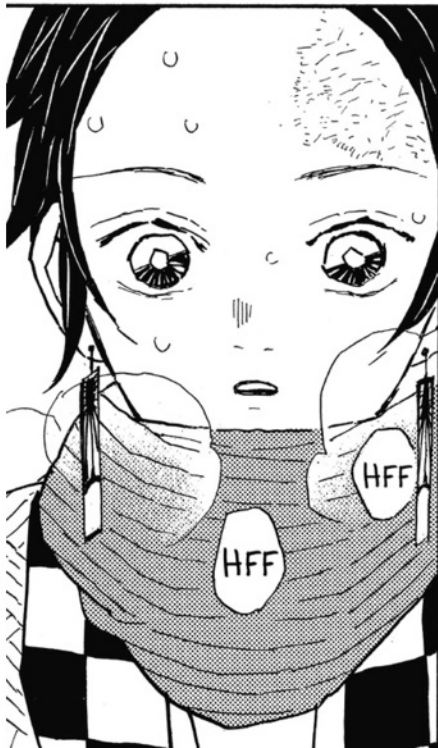


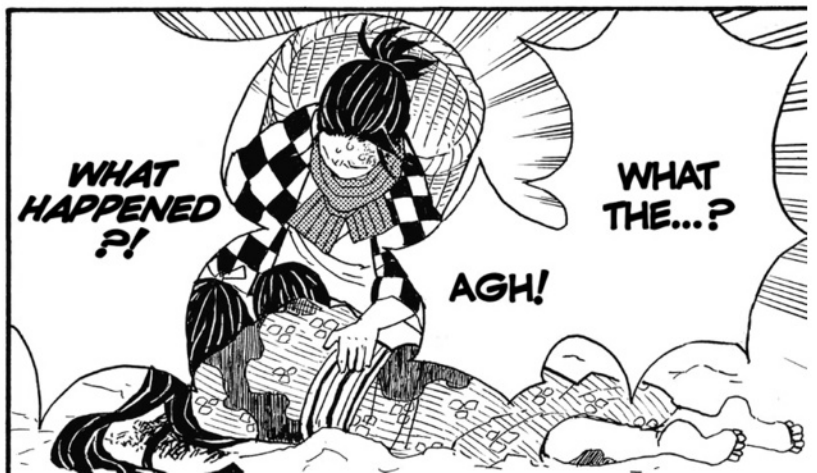
...MY
GRANDMOTHER
SAID THE SAME
THING BEFORE
SHE DIED.

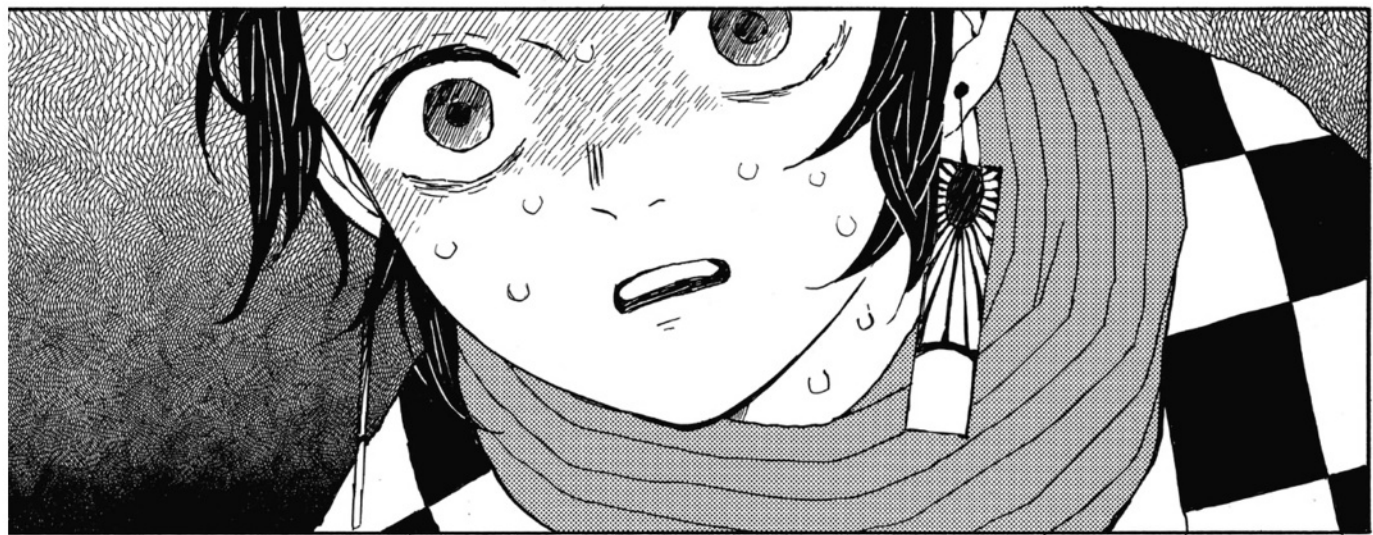
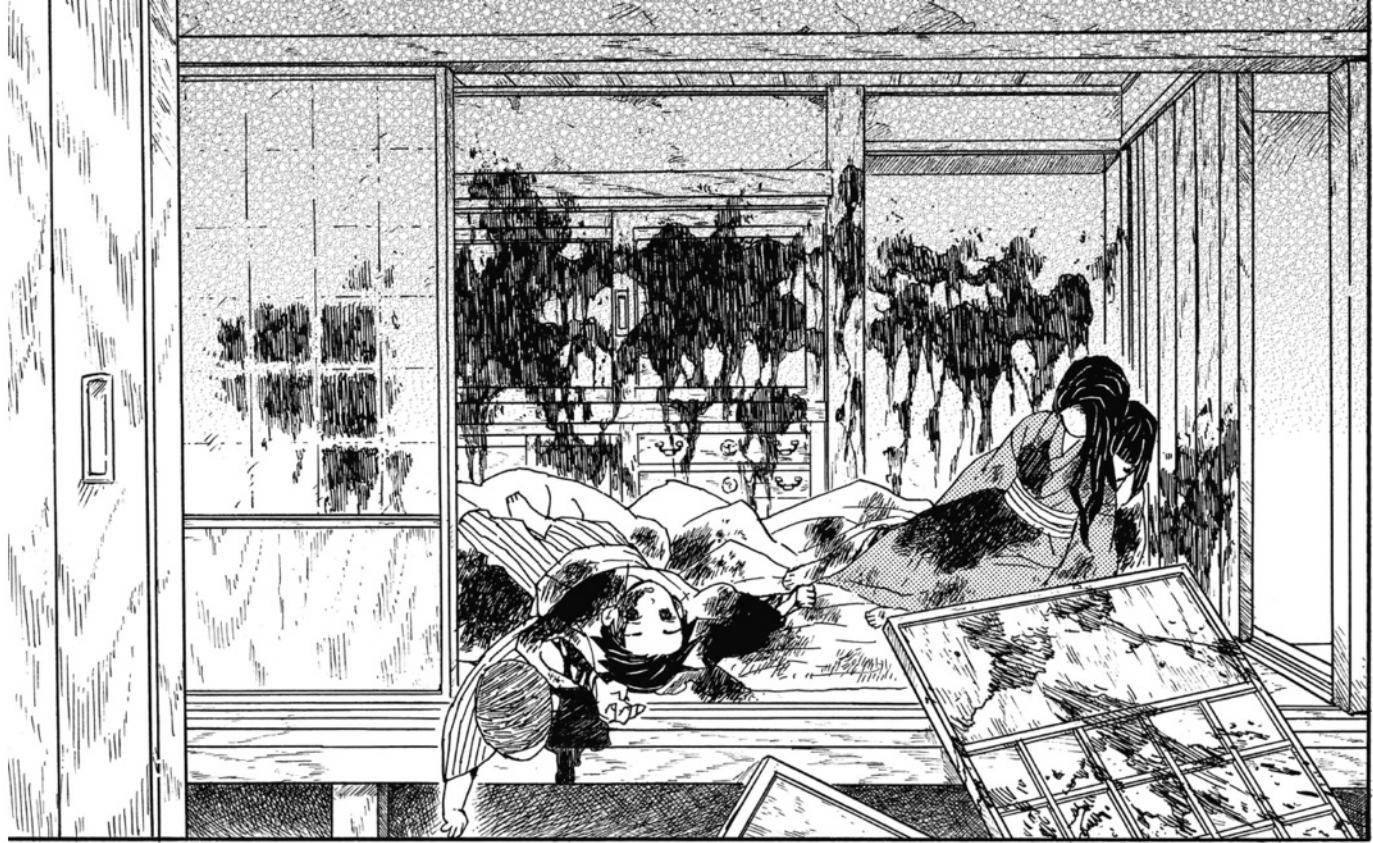


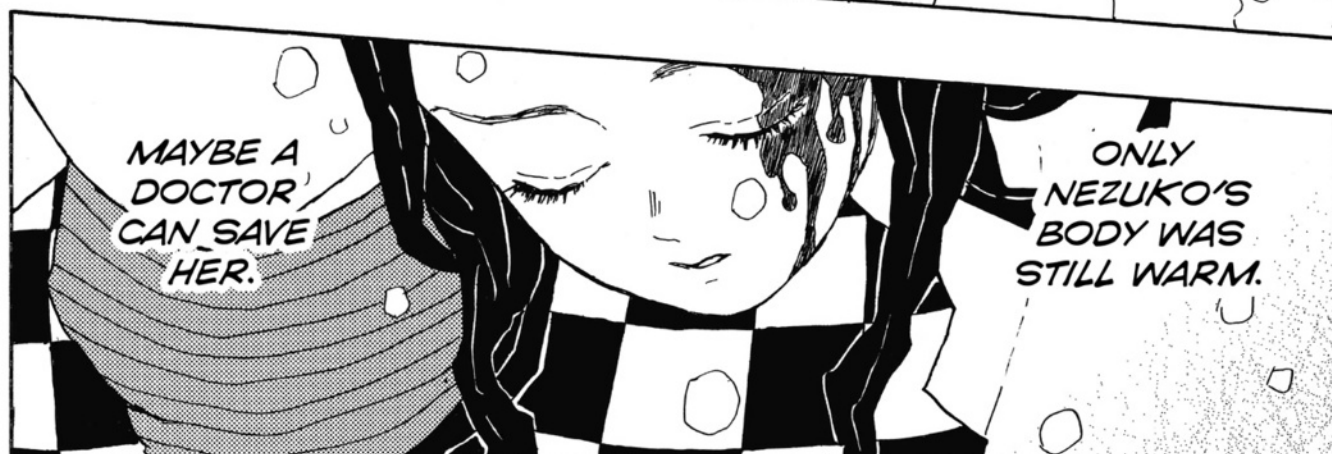
...THE
SMELL
OF
BLOOD
IN THE
AIR.

WHEN
HAPPI-
NESS ENDS
THERE'S
ALWAYS...





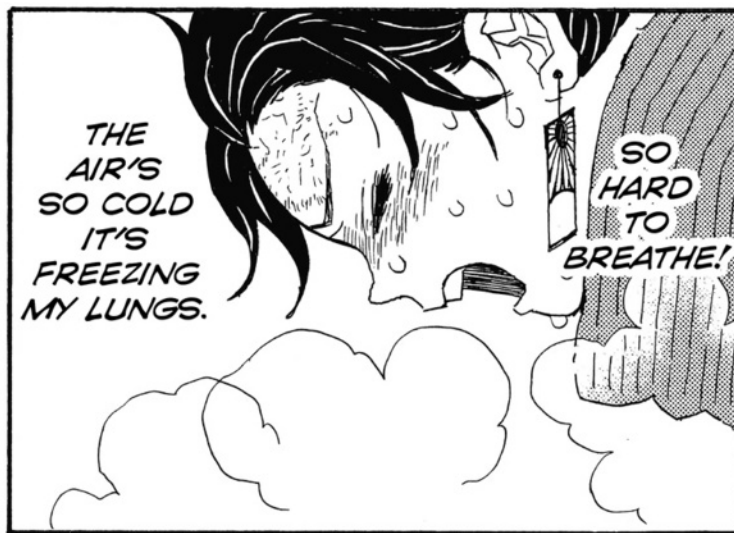






KEEP GOING!

MOVE YOUR FEET FASTER.



THE AIR'S SO COLD IT'S FREEZING MY LUNGS.

SO HARD TO BREATHE!



I HAVE TO SAVE YOU.



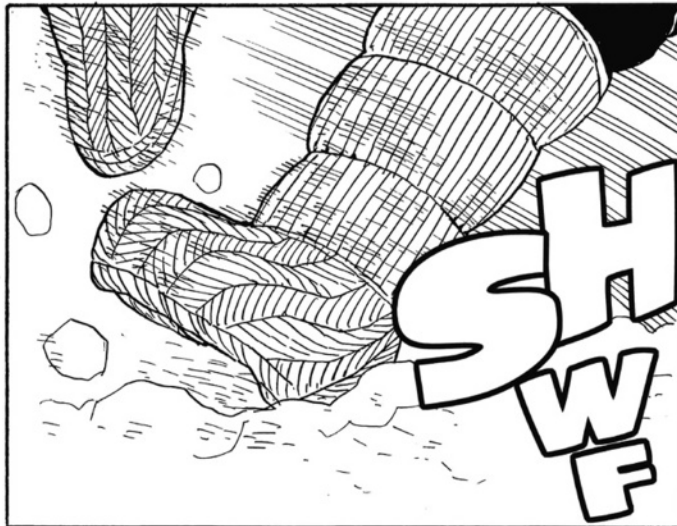
I WON'T LET YOU DIE.

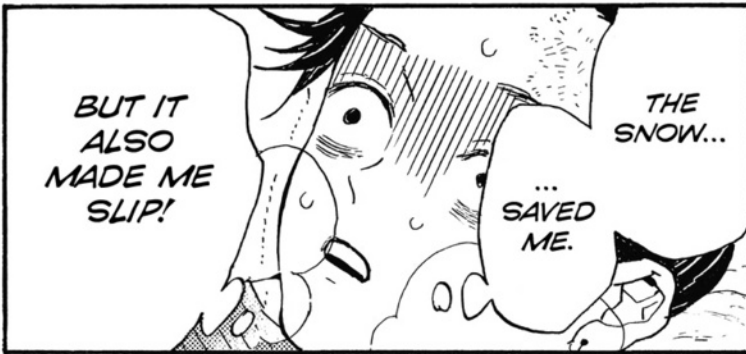


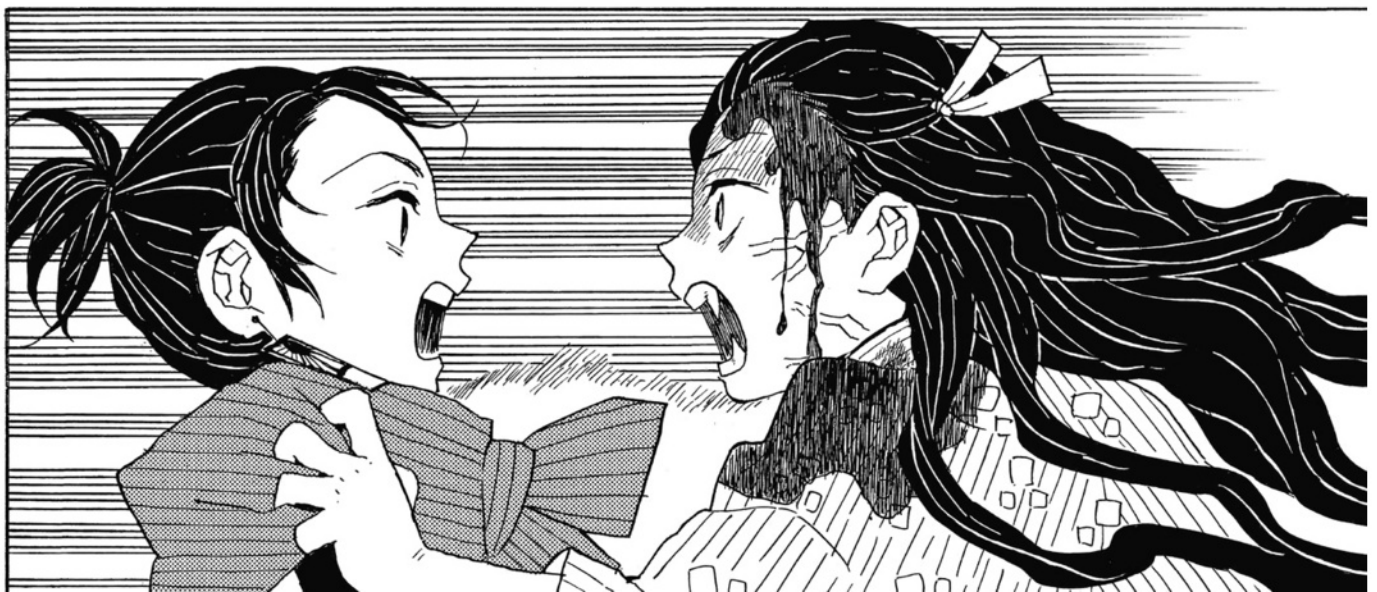
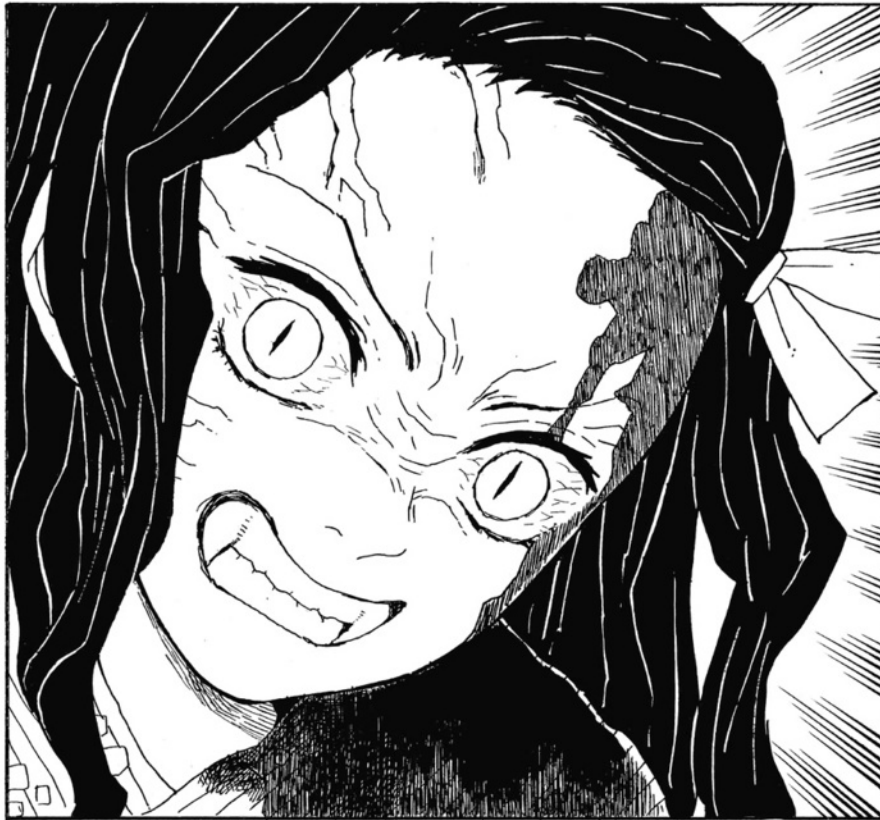
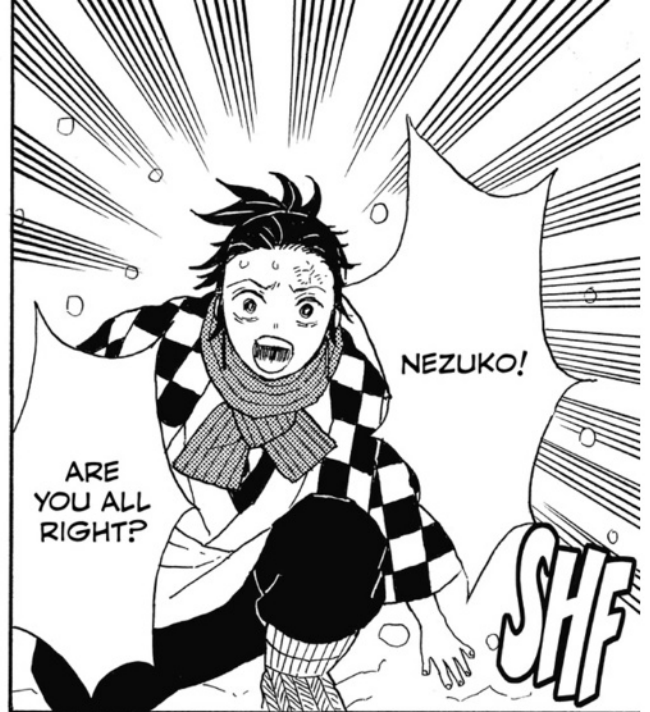
IT'S STILL A LONG WAY TO TOWN.



YOUR BIG BROTHER WILL SAVE YOU!

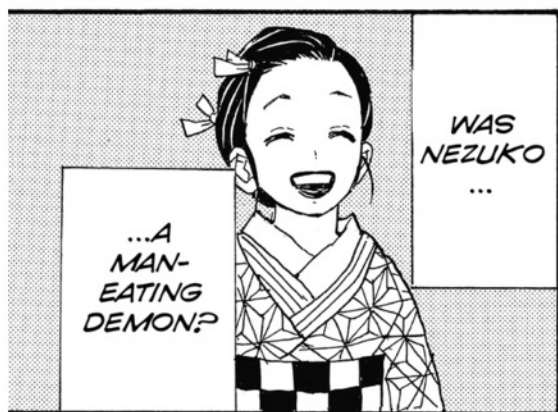








I THOUGHT
OF WHAT
OLD MAN
SABURO
SAID.



...A
MAN-
EATING
DEMON?

WAS
NEZUKO
...



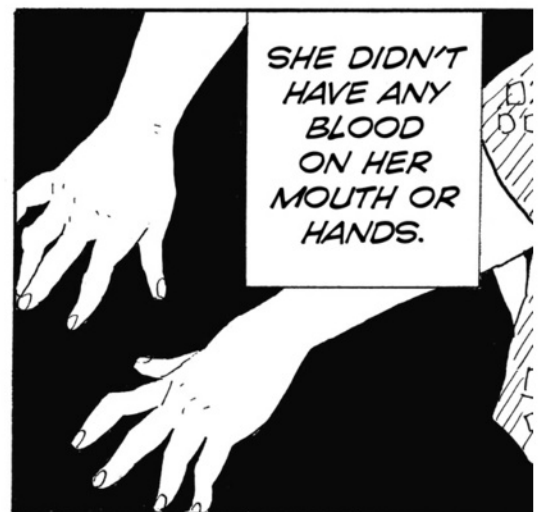
A
DEMON!



...SINCE
THE DAY
SHE WAS
BORN.

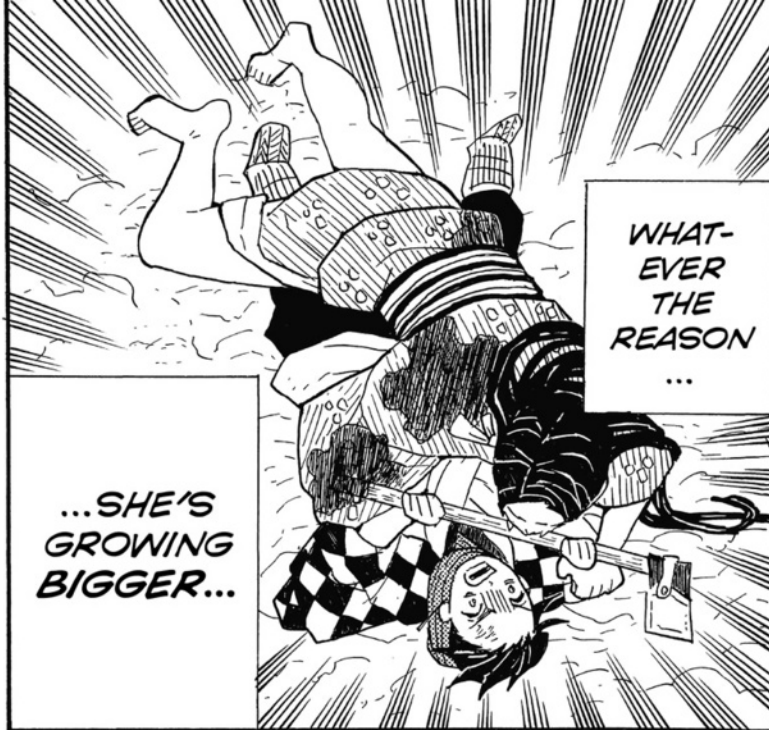
NEZUKO
HAS
BEEN
HUMAN...

NO, THAT
WAS IM-
POSSIBLE.





...AND
SHE'S
GETTING
STRON-
GER!



WHAT-
EVER
THE
REASON
...

...SHE'S
GROWING
BIGGER...



...HAPPENED
TO MY
WHOLE
FAMILY.

WHILE I WAS
SAFELY ASLEEP
IN TOWN,
SOMETHING
HORRIBLE...



BUT
SHE'S SO
STRONG!
I CAN'T
PUSH HER
AWAY!

NEZUKO!

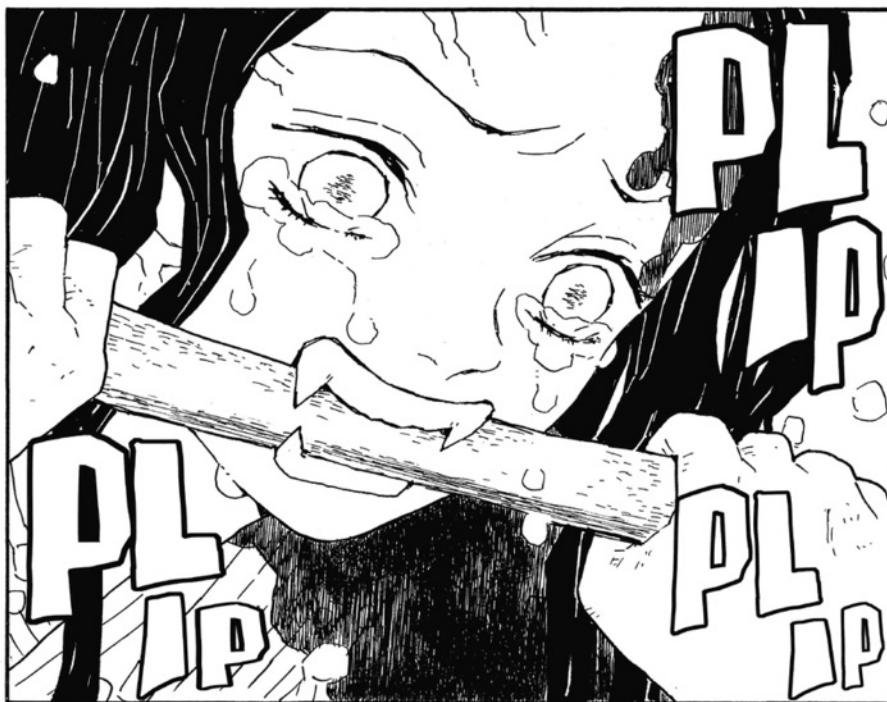


I HAVE
TO SAVE
NEZUKO
IF I CAN!

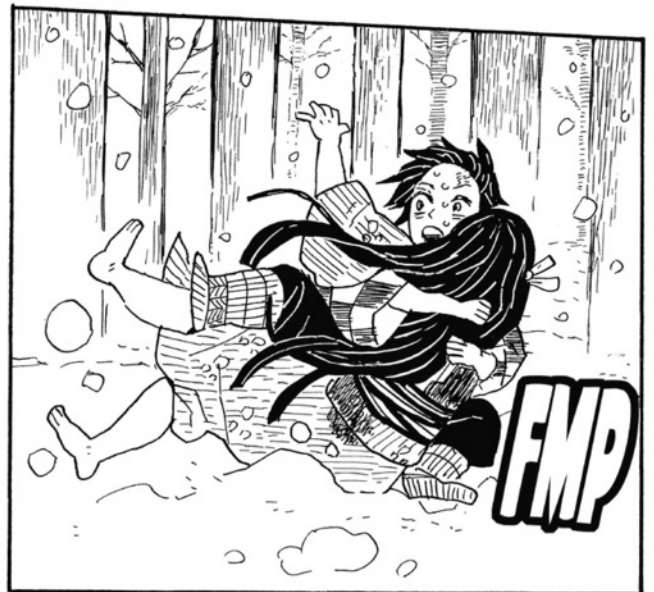


HOW
THEY
MUST
HAVE
SUFFERED.

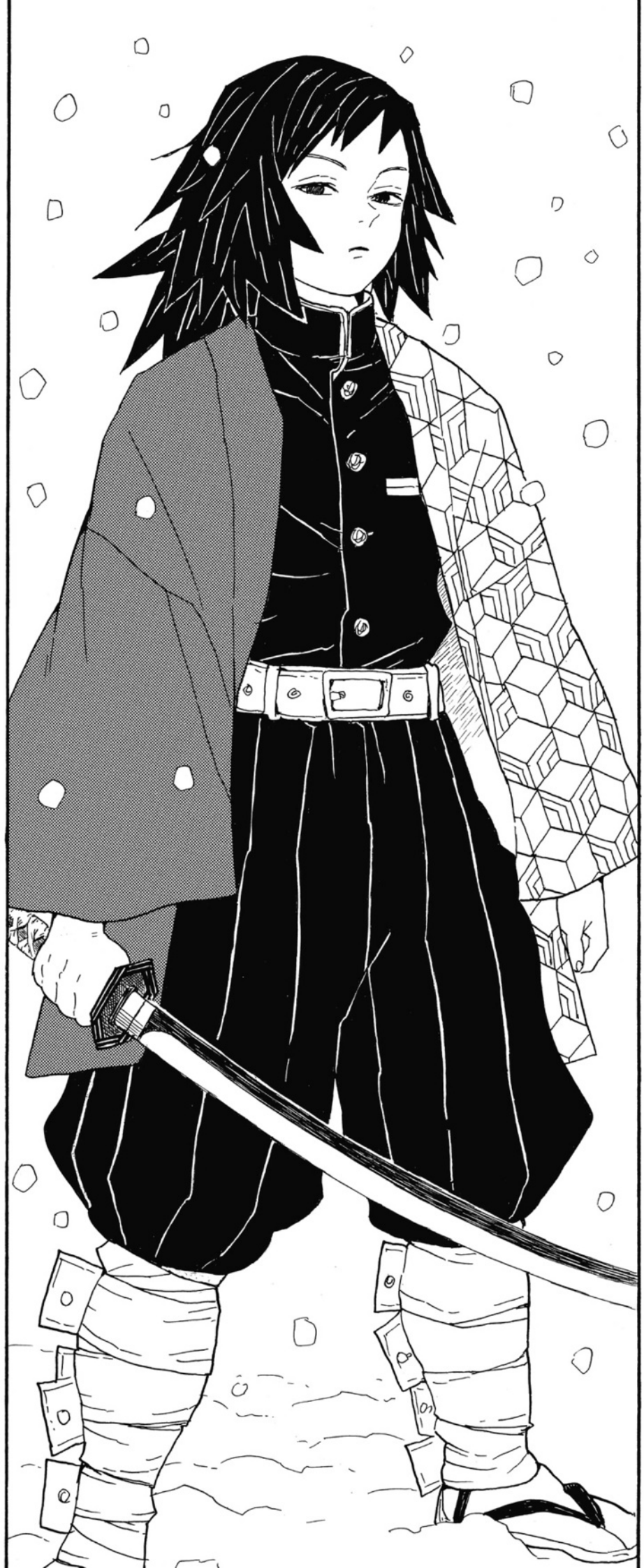
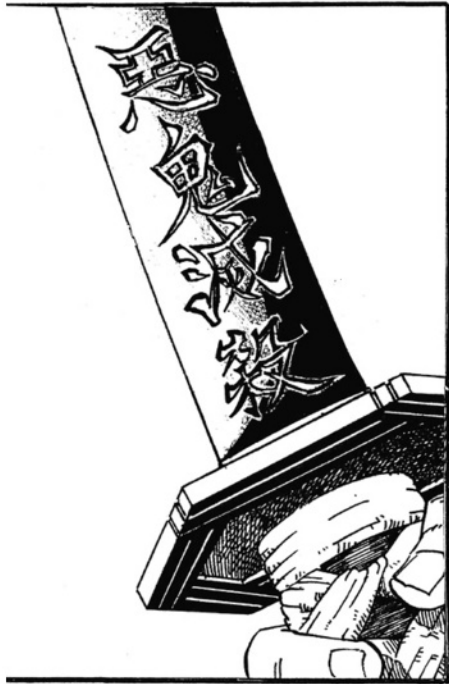
...AND I
WASN'T
THERE
TO HELP
THEM.

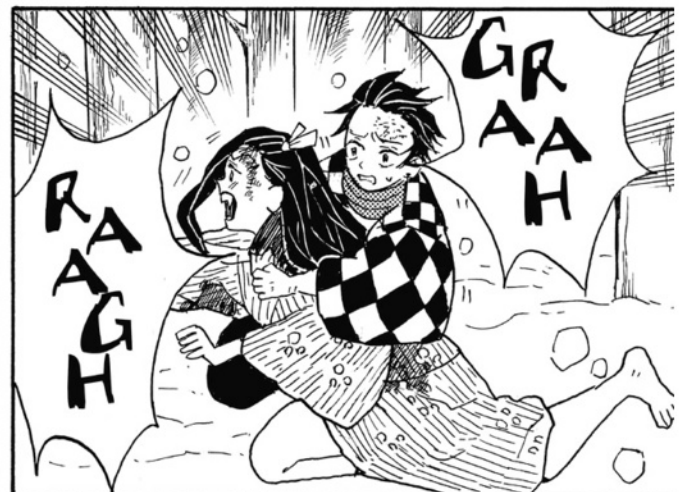


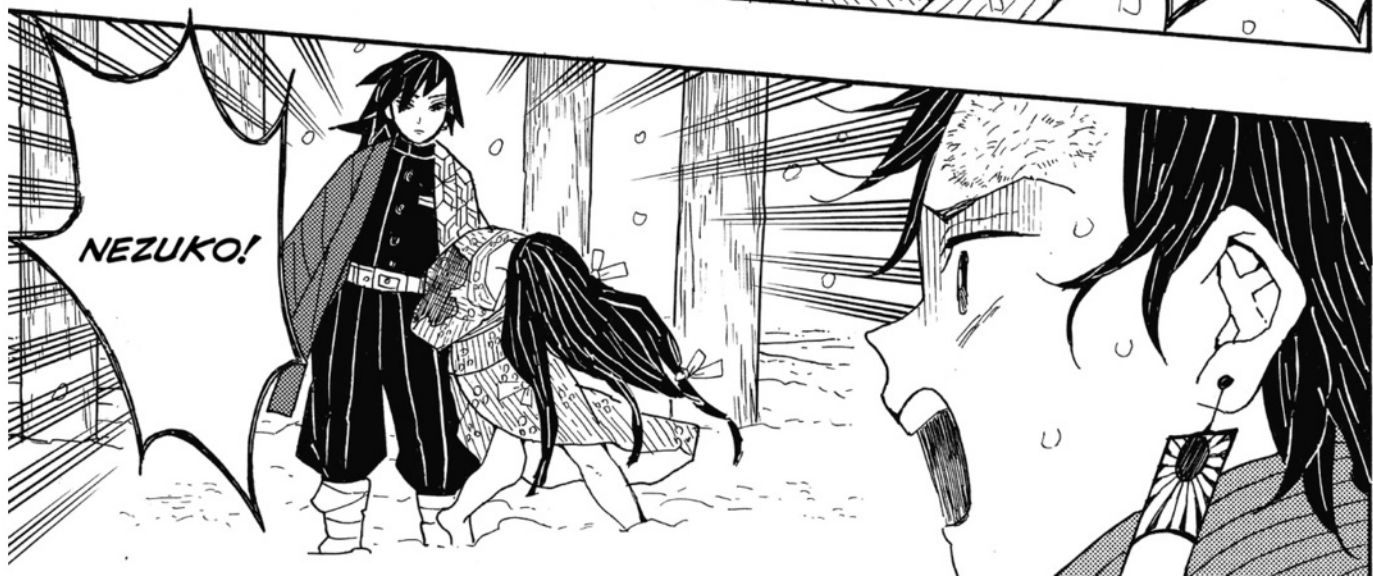
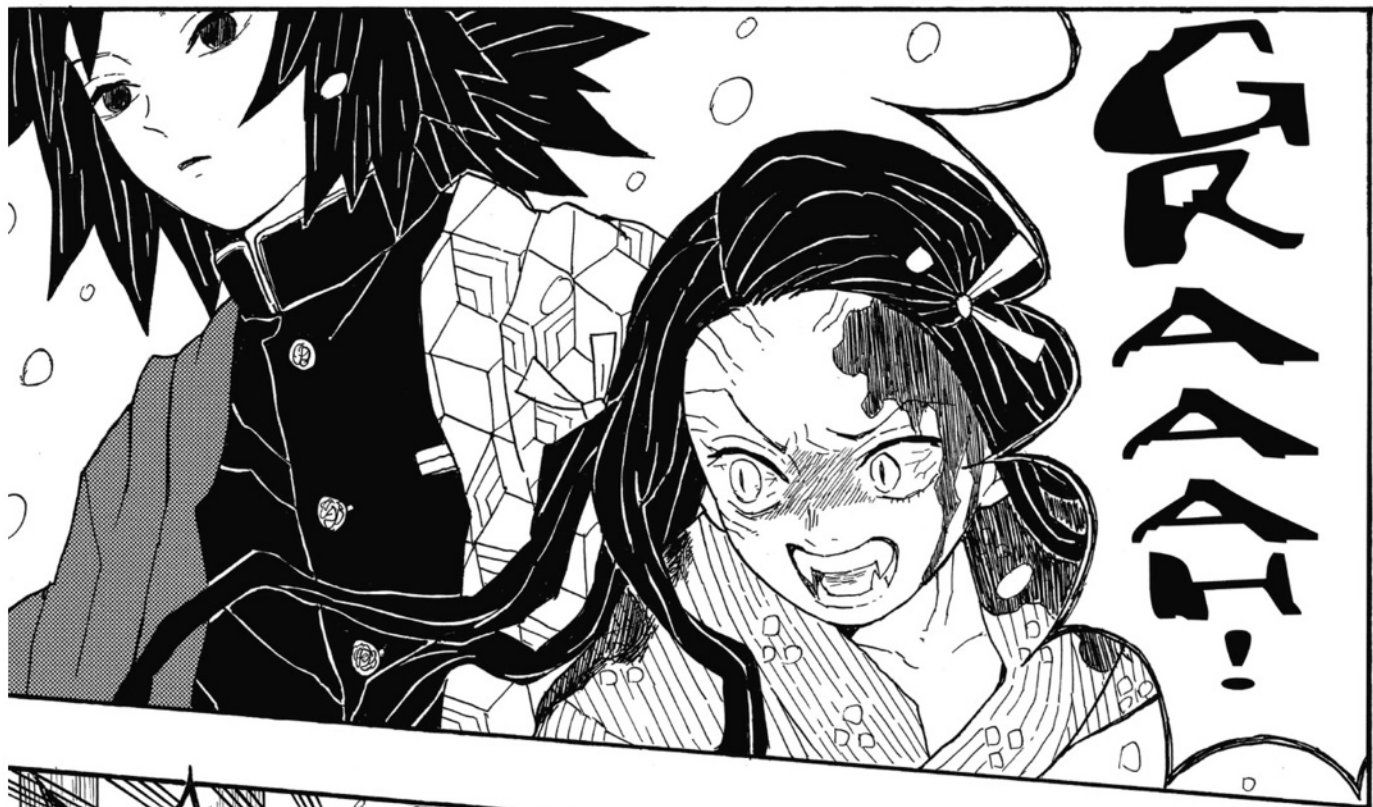




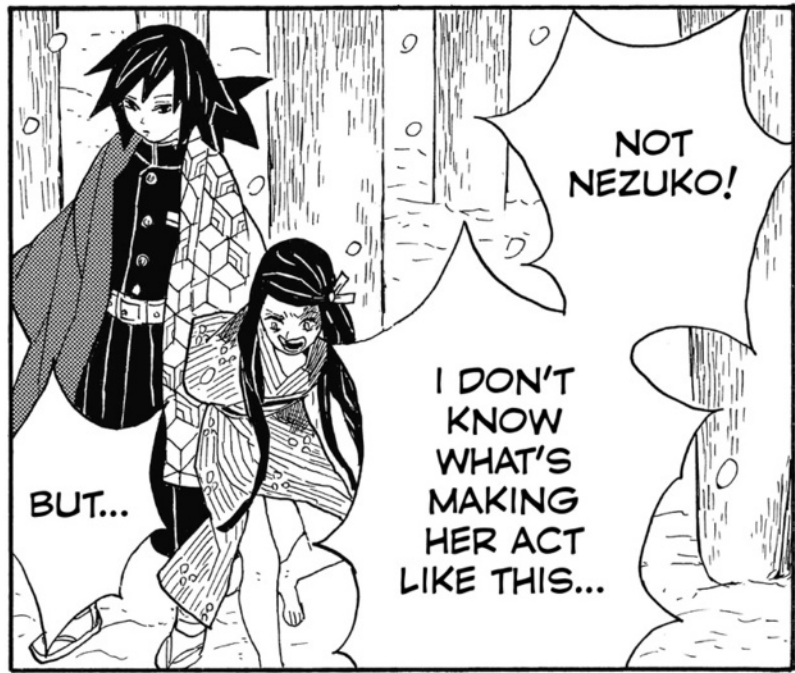
*AKKIMESSATSU,
DESTROYER OF DEMONS

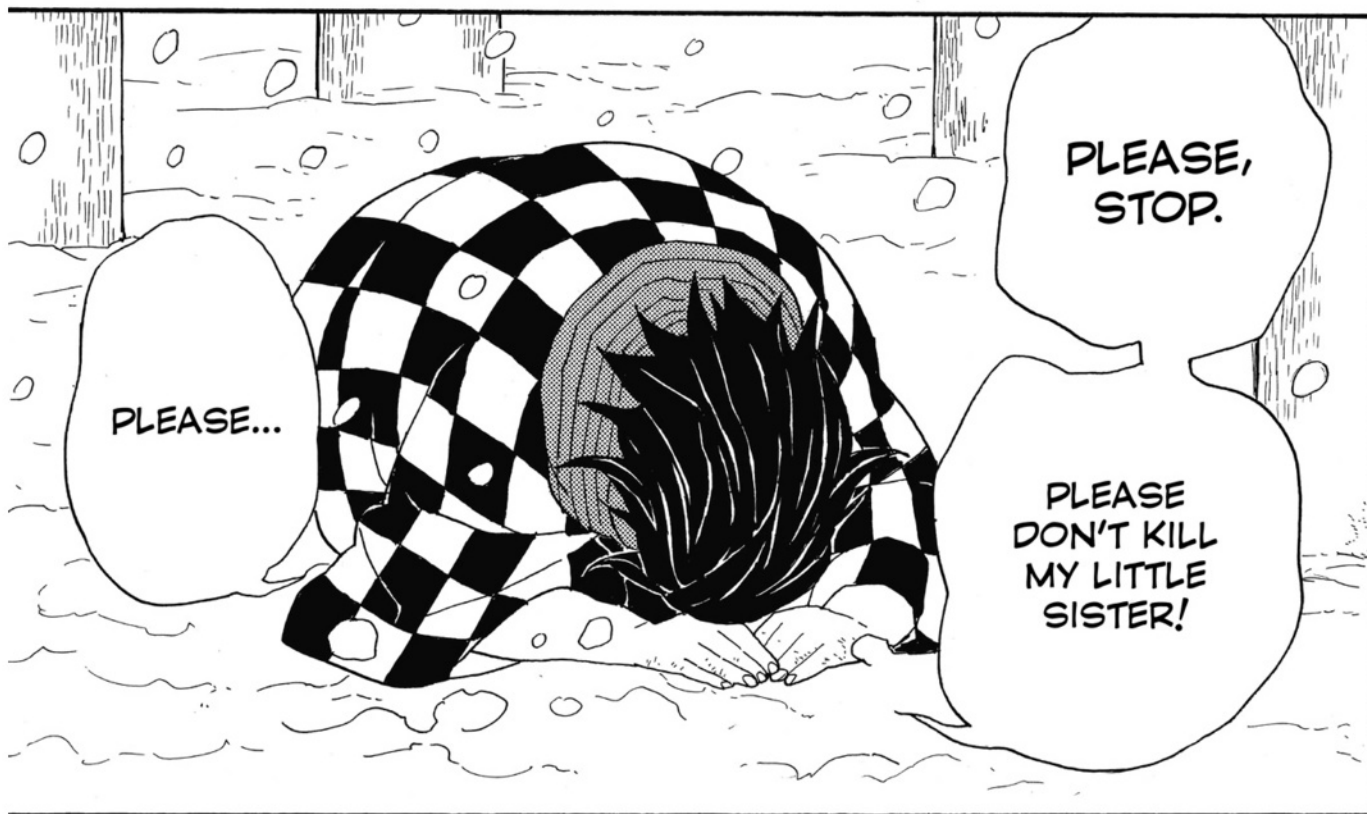
















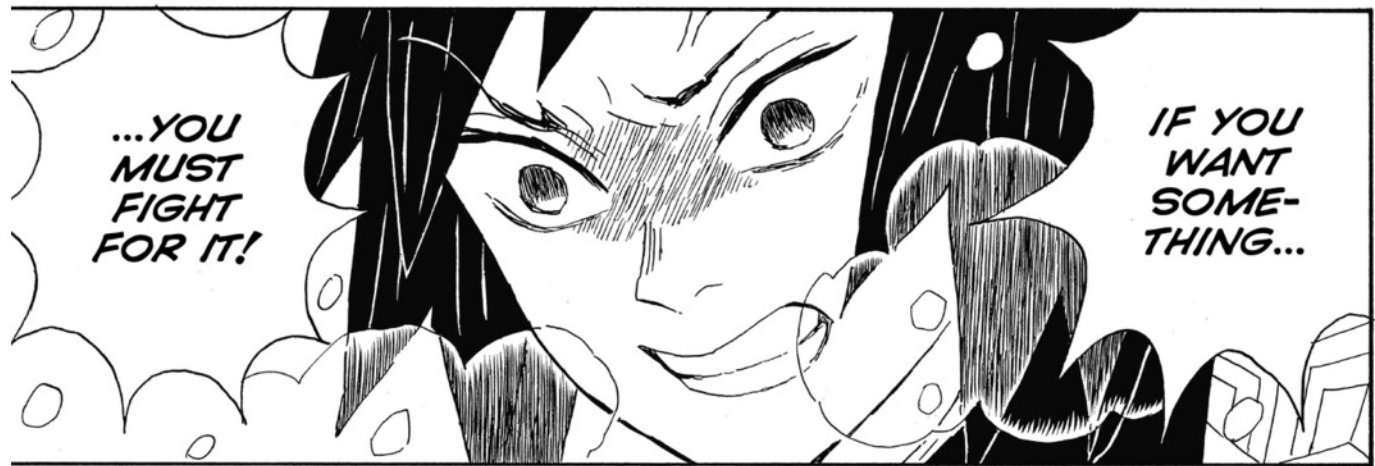
NEVER LEAVE
YOURSELF SO
DEFENSELESS
IN FRONT OF AN
ENEMY!

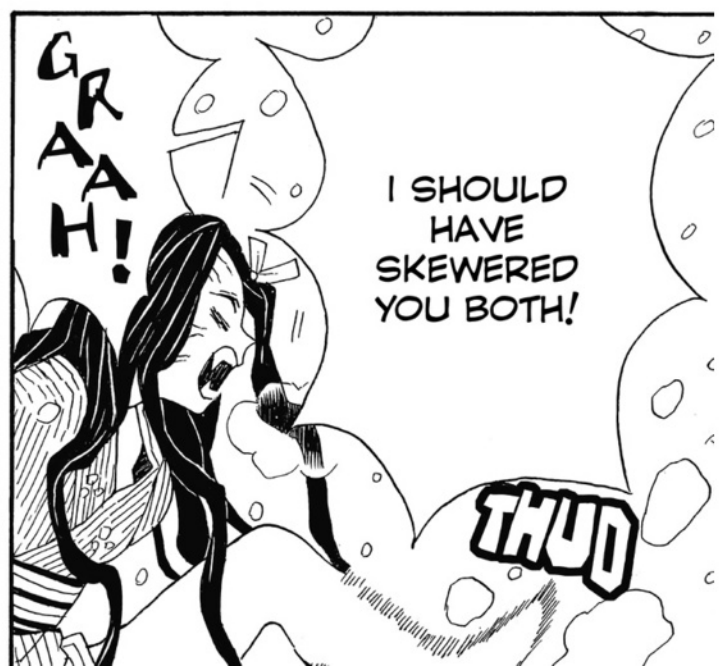
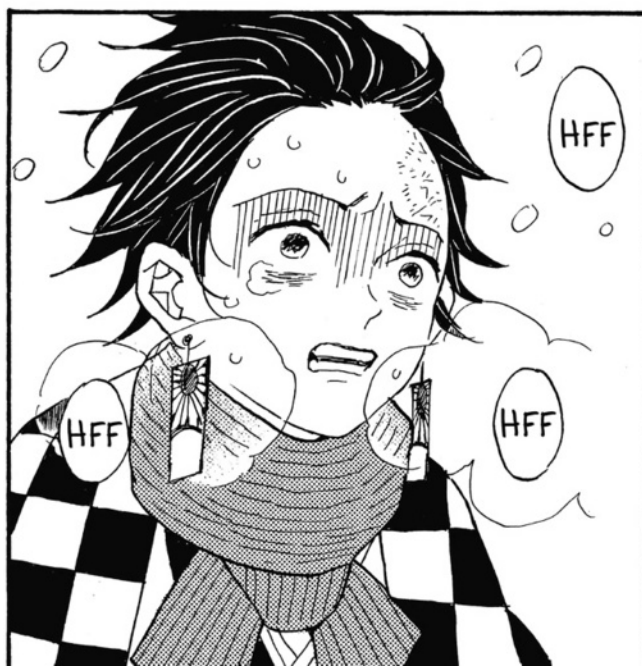


IF THAT
WORKED,
YOUR FAMILY
WOULD STILL
BE ALIVE!

STOP
BOWING
SO
PITIFULLY!









*YOUR
HEART IS
CRUSHED.*

*YOUR
FAMILY
IS DEAD
AND YOUR
SISTER HAS
BECOME A
DEMON.*

*I KNOW
YOUR PAIN,
HOW YOU
MUST WANT
TO CRY OUT.*



*DON'T
CRY.*

*DON'T
DESPAIR.*

*THOSE
THINGS
WILL DO
YOU NO
GOOD.*



*BUT THERE
IS NO
TURNING
BACK
TIME.*

*...YOUR
FAMILY
MIGHT HAVE
SURVIVED.*

*IF I'D
COME
HALF
A DAY
SOONER
...*

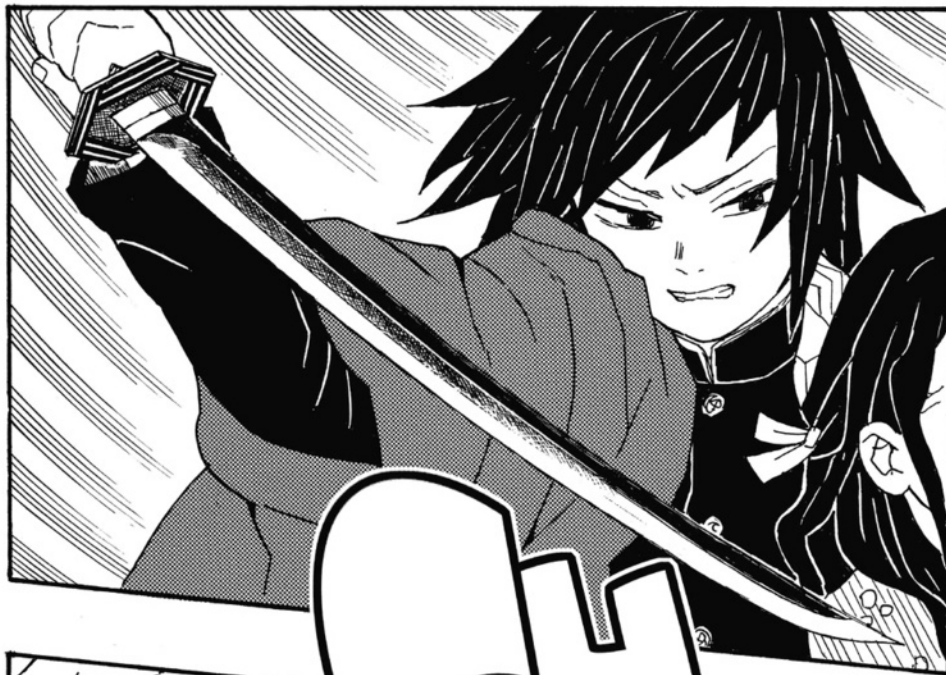
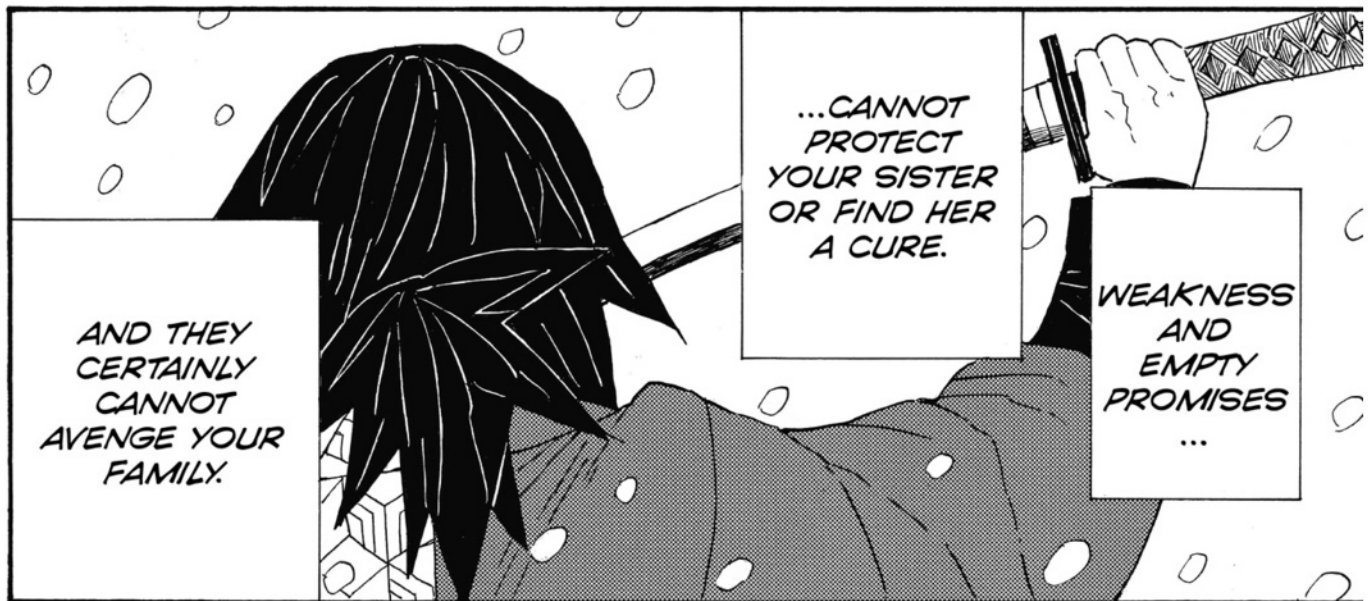


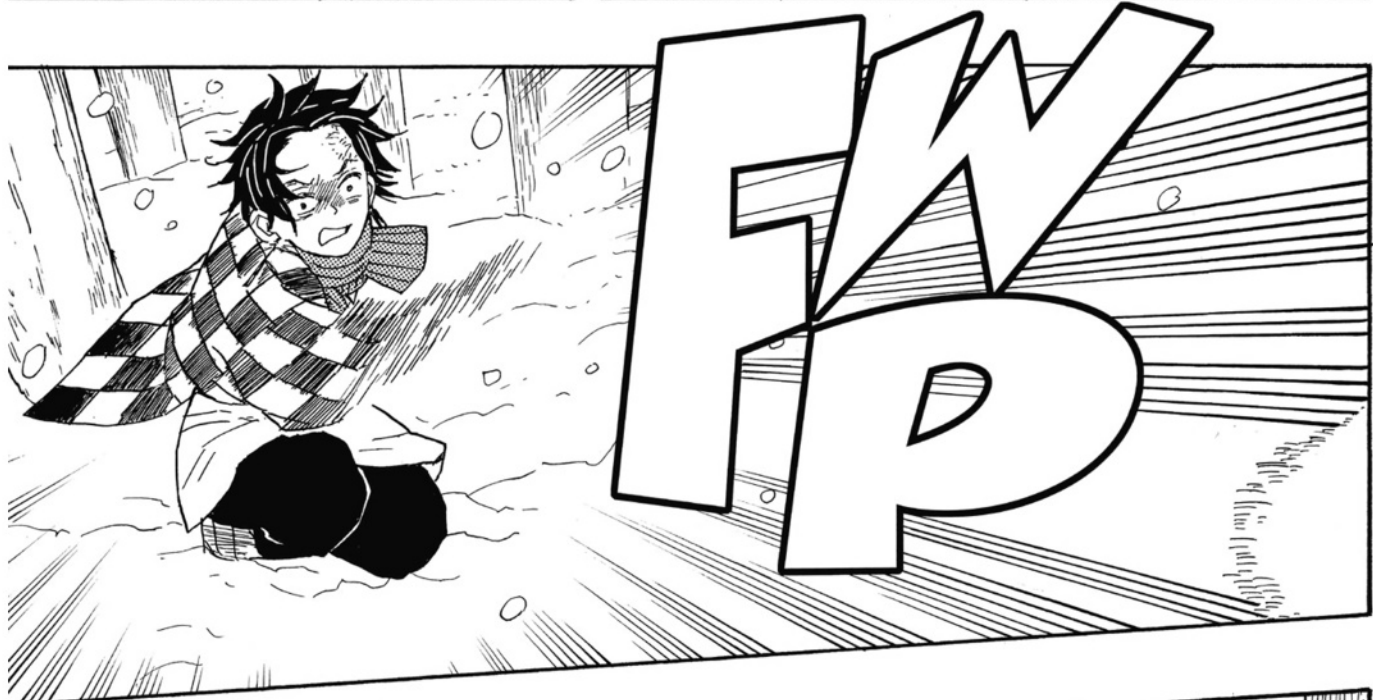
*ANGER THAT
BECOMES THE
UNWAVERING
FORCE THAT
DRIVES YOUR
LIMBS.*

*...THAT
GIVES NO
QUARTER.*

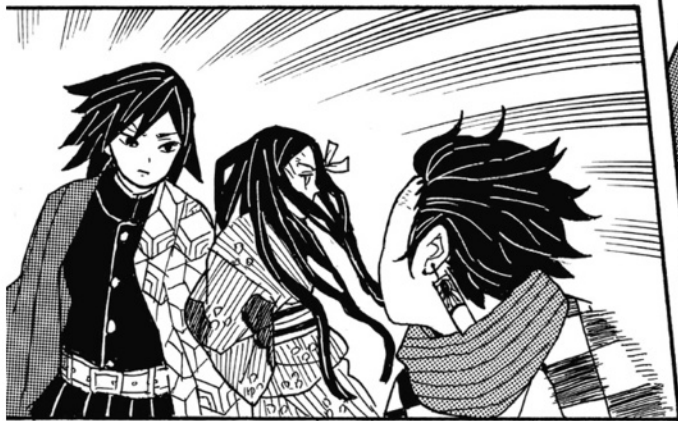
*STRONG,
PURE
ANGER...*

*FILL YOUR
HEART
WITH
ANGER.*

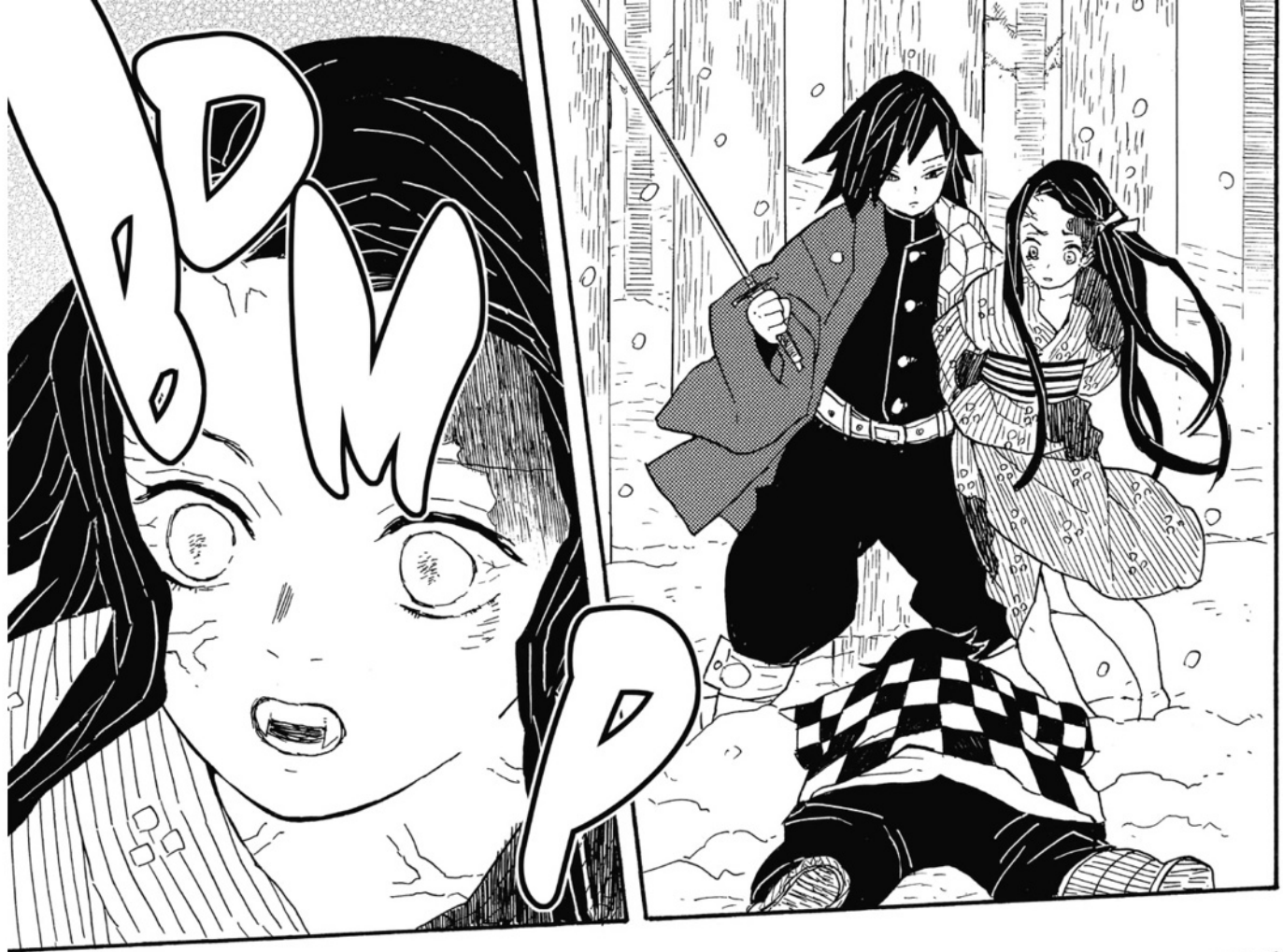


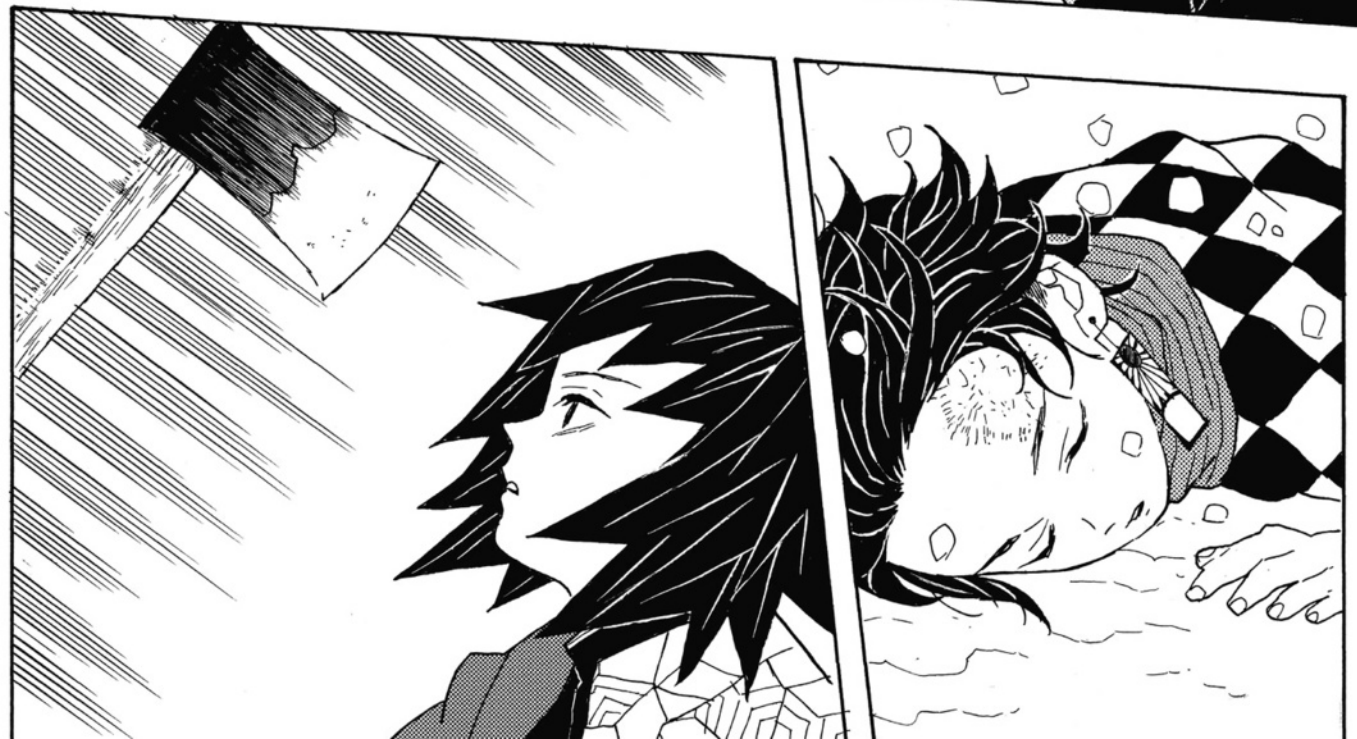
















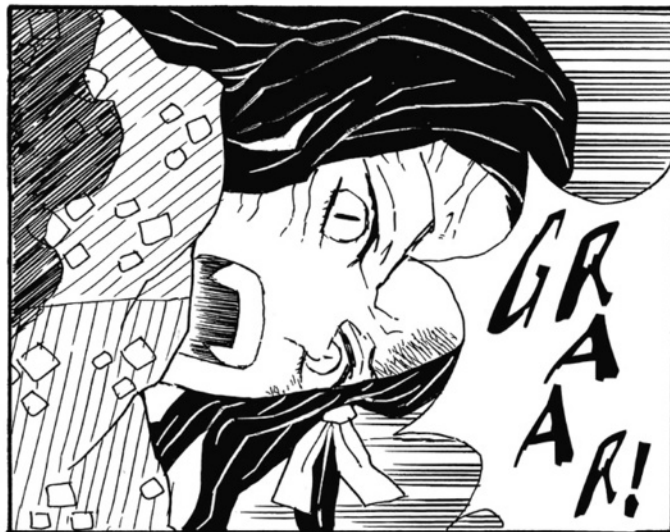
...WAS TO
STRIKE
ME DOWN
AFTER I
KILLED
HIM.



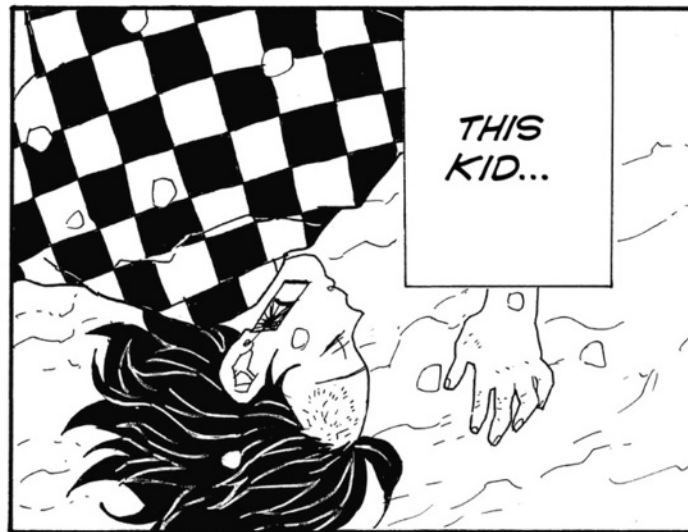
HE KNEW
HE
COULDN'T
WIN
AGAINST
ME, SO HIS
PLAN...



HE HID HIS
HAND SO I
WOULDN'T
SEE HE WAS
UNARMED.



GRAA!



THIS
KID...

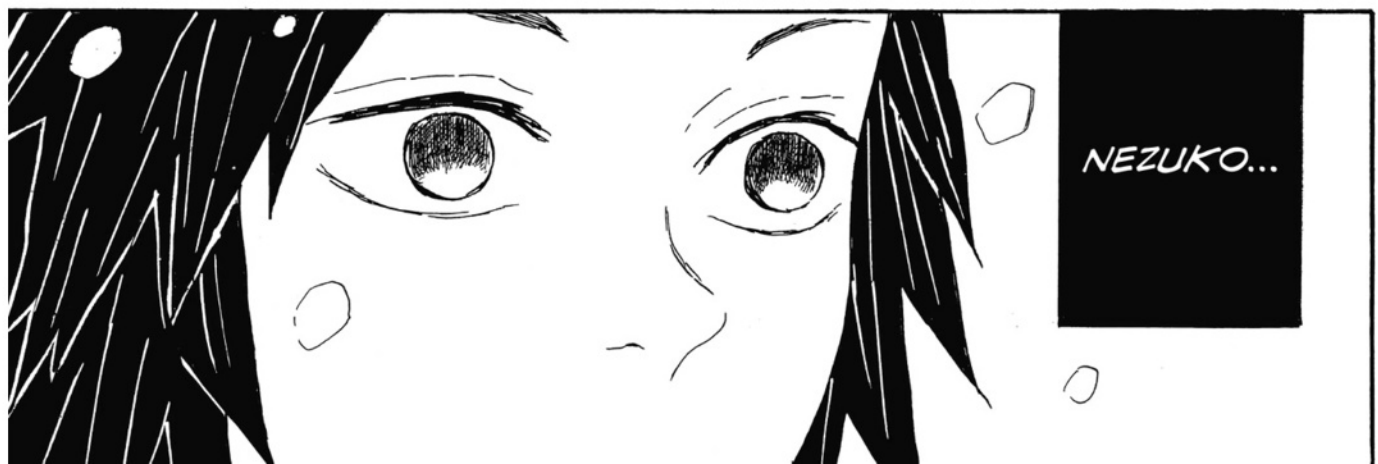




NO! I'M
TOO
LATE!



SHE'S
ABOUT
TO EAT
HIM!



NEZUKO...



I'VE SEEN
IT COUNT-
LESS
TIMES.

BECAUSE
THEY
NEED THE
ENERGY.



STARVING
DEMONS WILL
KILL AND EAT
THEIR OWN
PARENTS AND
SIBLINGS.

...AND MUST
WANT TO EAT
HUMAN FLESH
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

...NOT TO
MENTION THE
STRENGTH
IT TOOK TO
TRANSFORM
INTO A DEMON.
SHE MUST
BE DOUBLY
STARVED RIGHT
NOW...



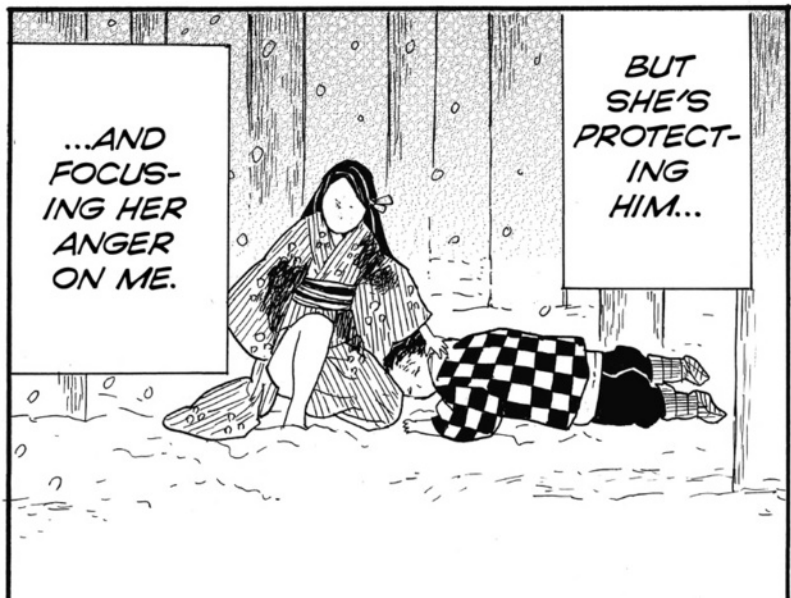
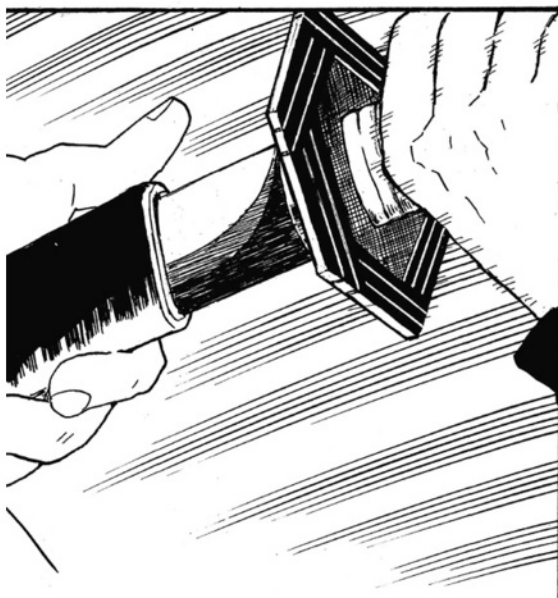
THIS
GIRL IS
INJURED. IT
COSTS HER
STRENGTH
...

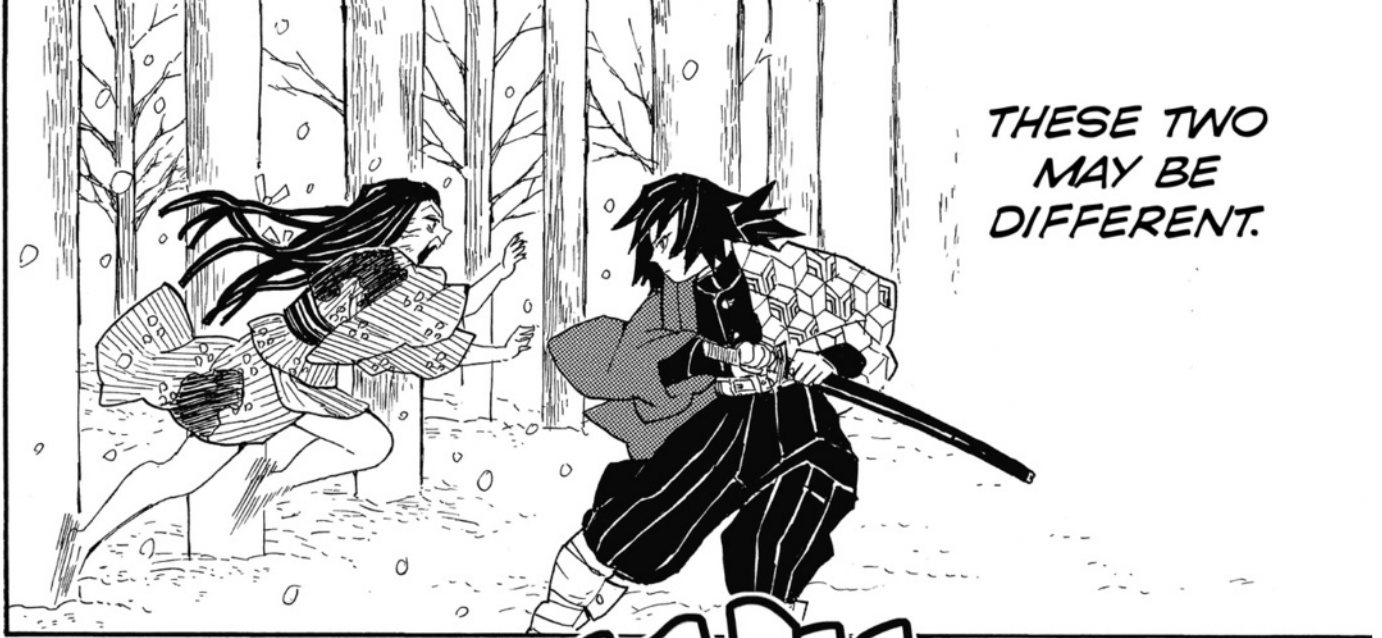
...TO HEAL
THAT
WOUND...



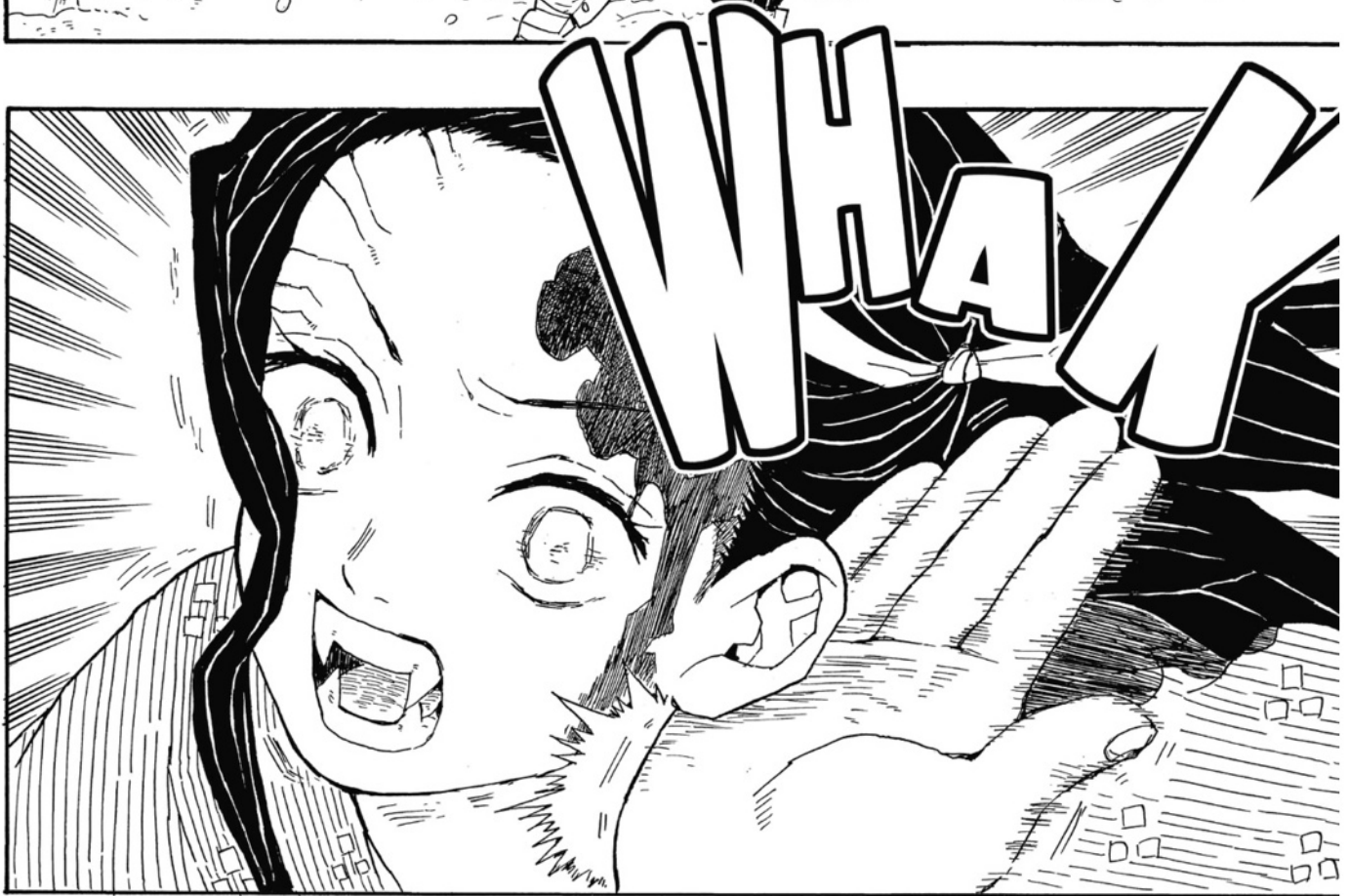
...AND
FOCUS-
ING HER
ANGER
ON ME.

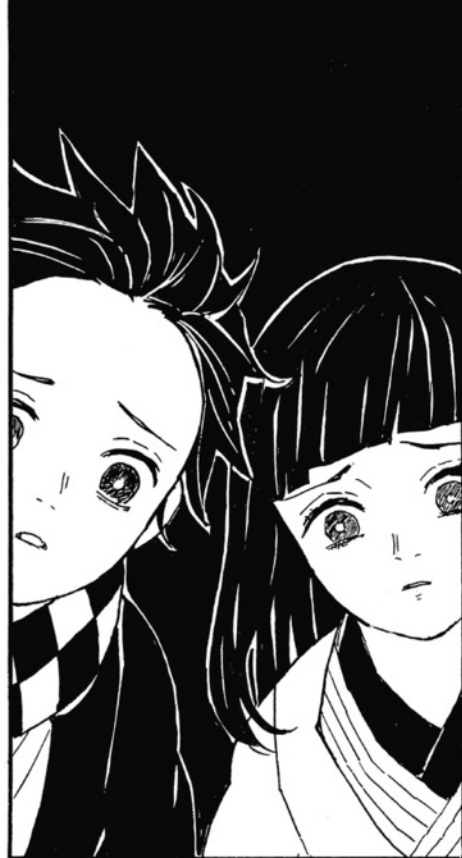
BUT
SHE'S
PROTECT-
ING
HIM...





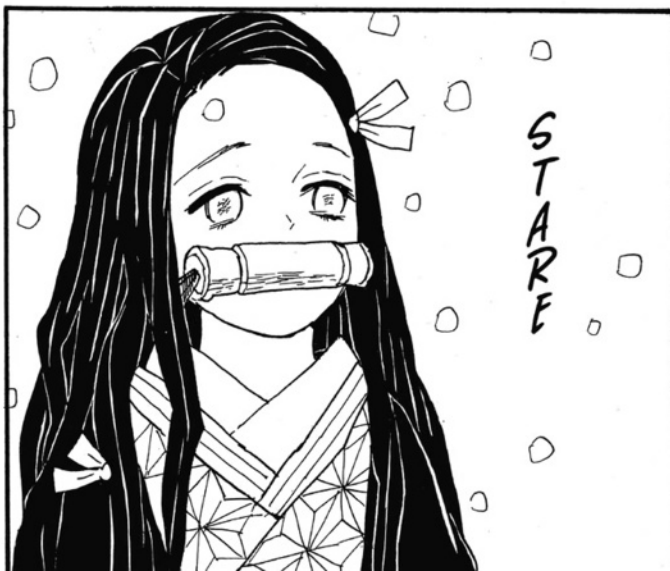
THESE TWO
MAY BE
DIFFERENT.

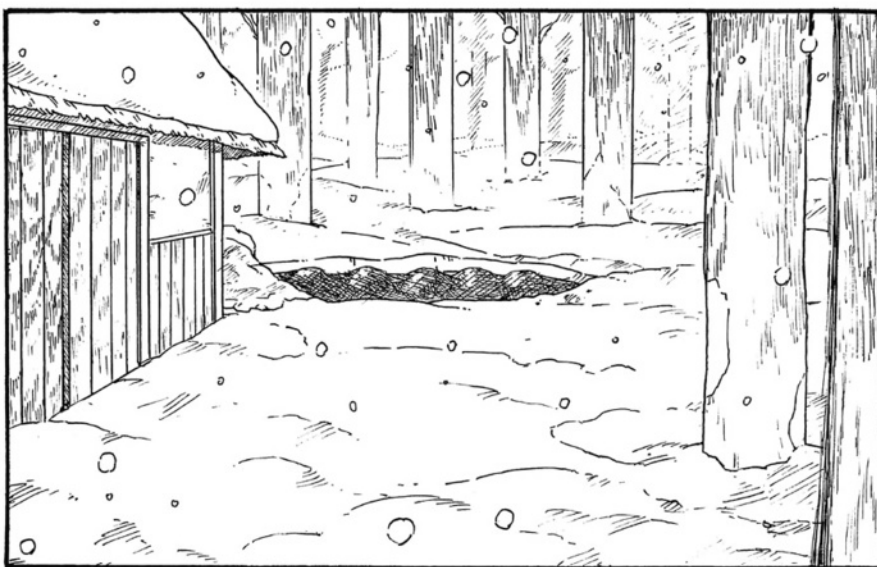
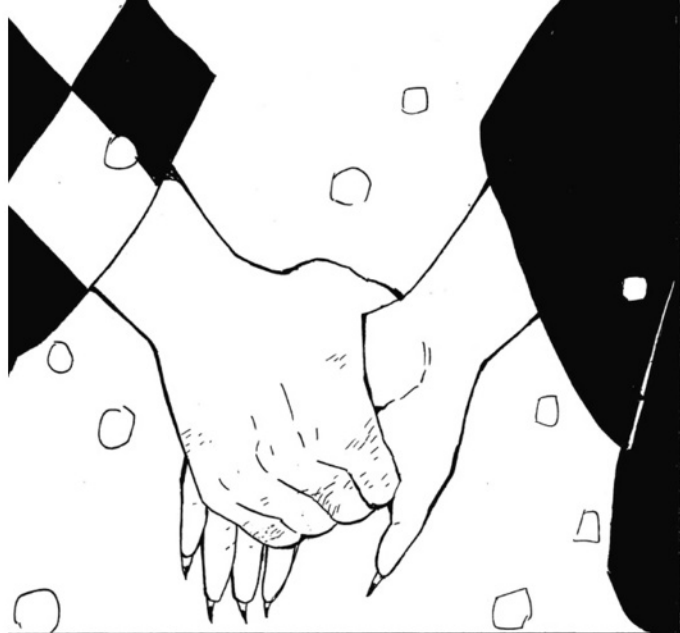








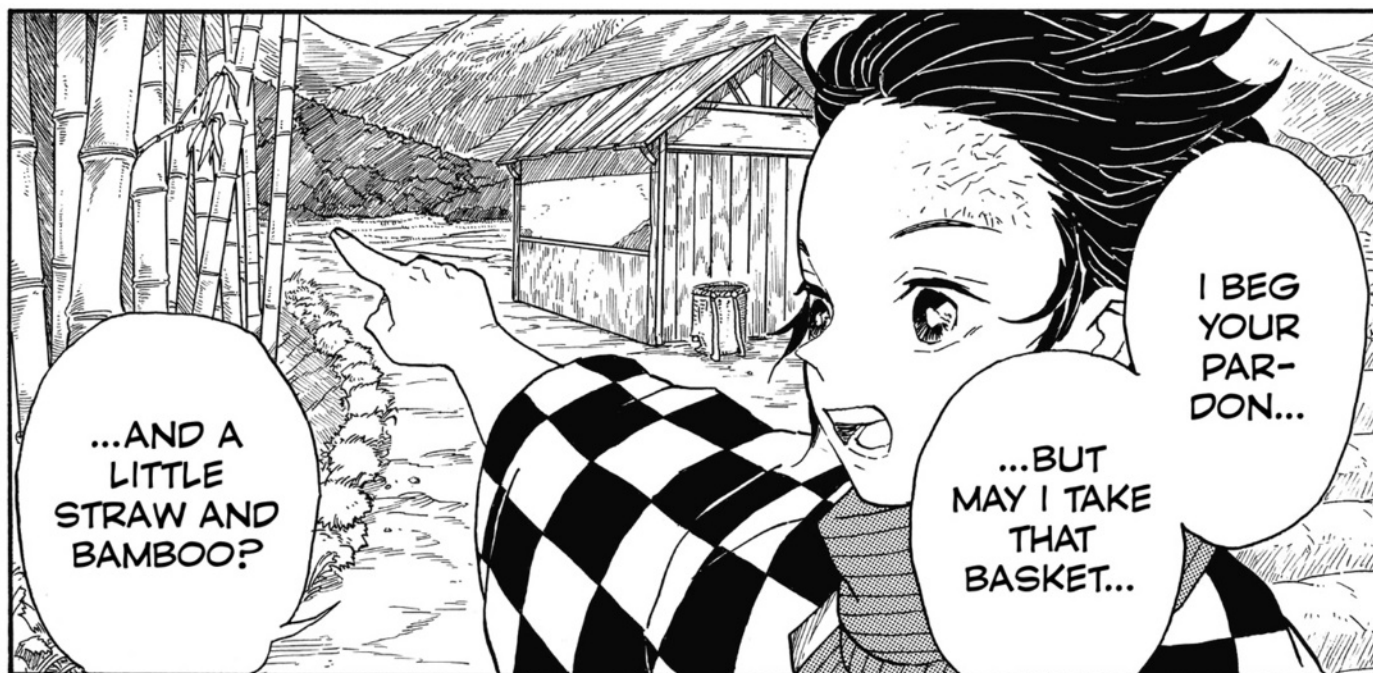






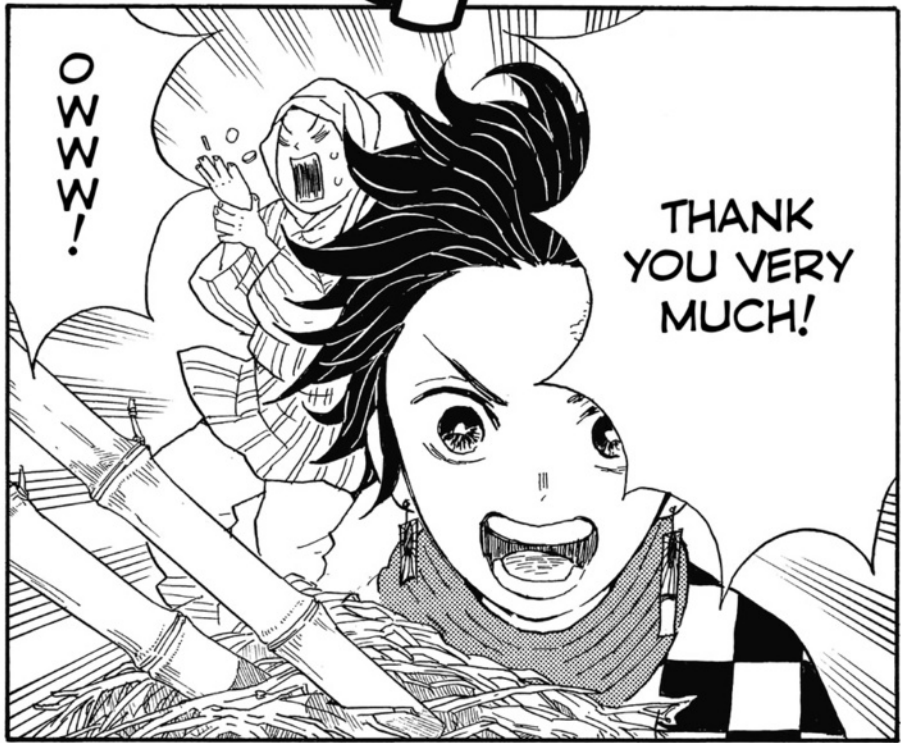


CHAPTER 2: THE STRANGER





JUST TAKE
IT! IT'S ONLY
A FEW COINS
ANYWAY!

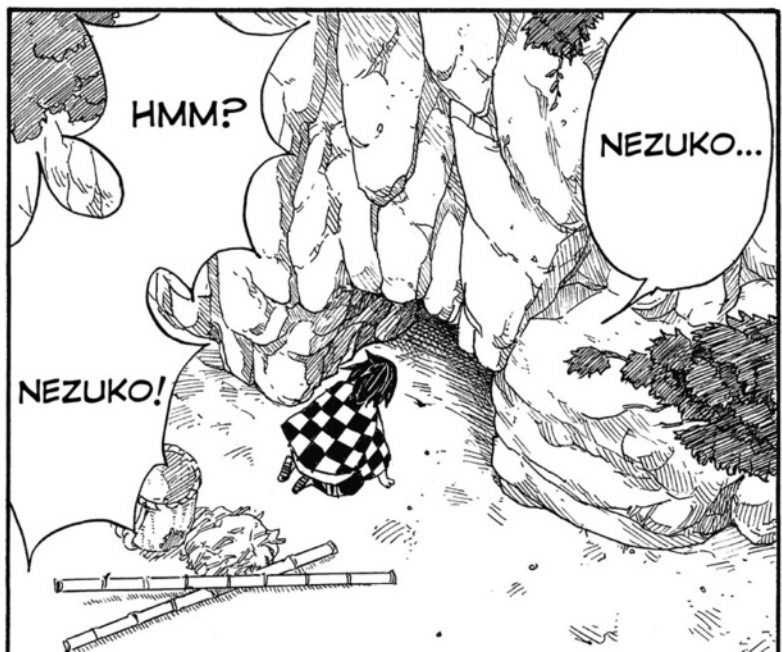


OMMM--!

THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH!



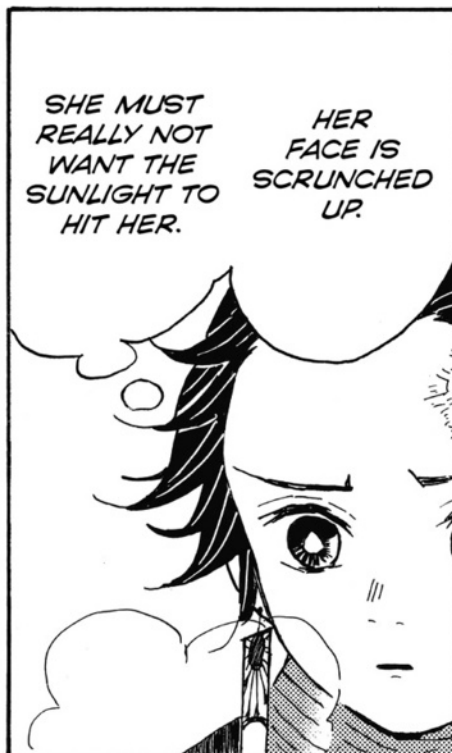
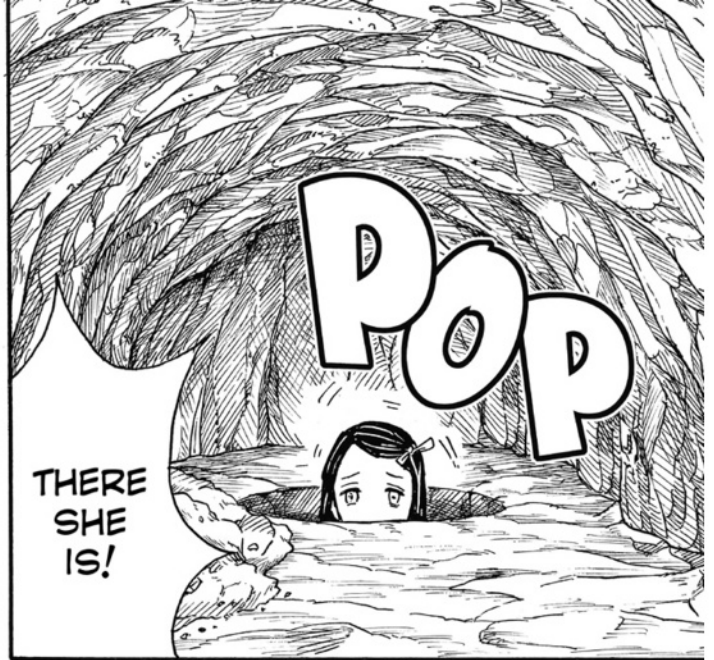
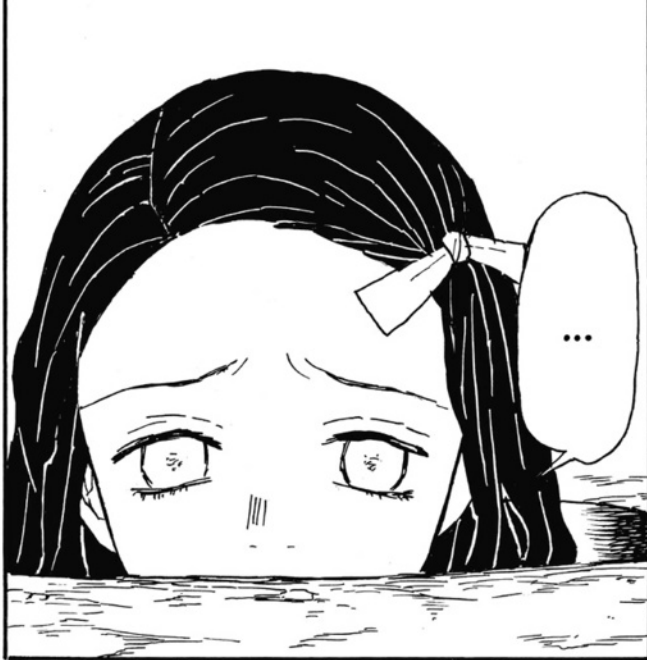
SHE'S
GONE!

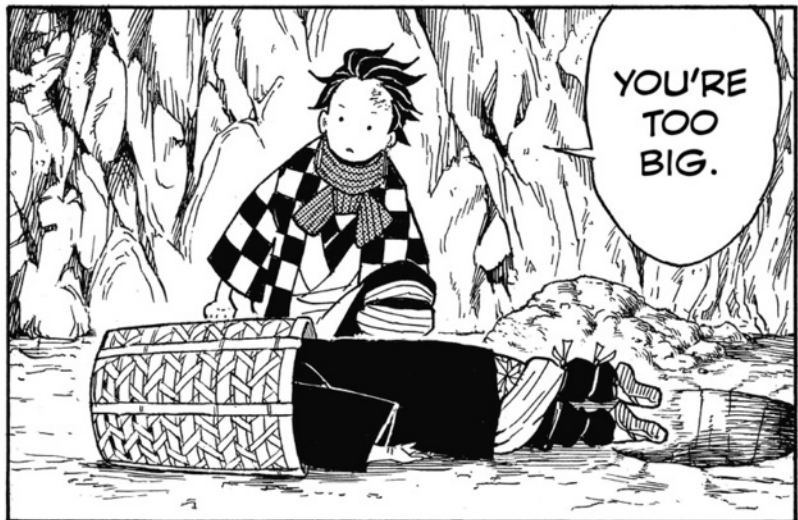


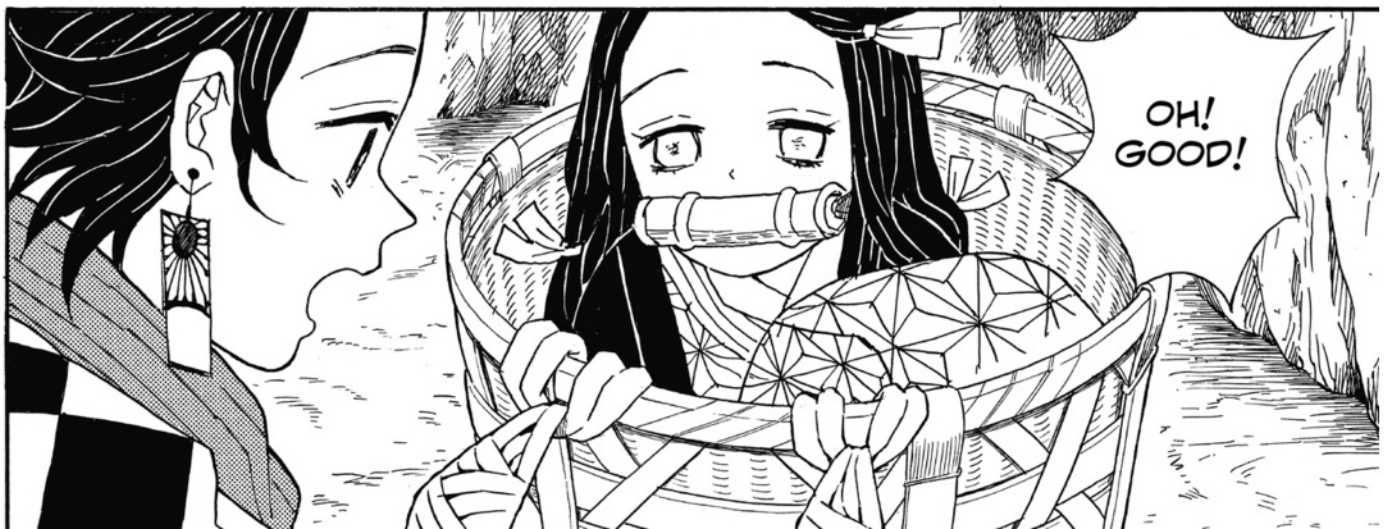
HMM?

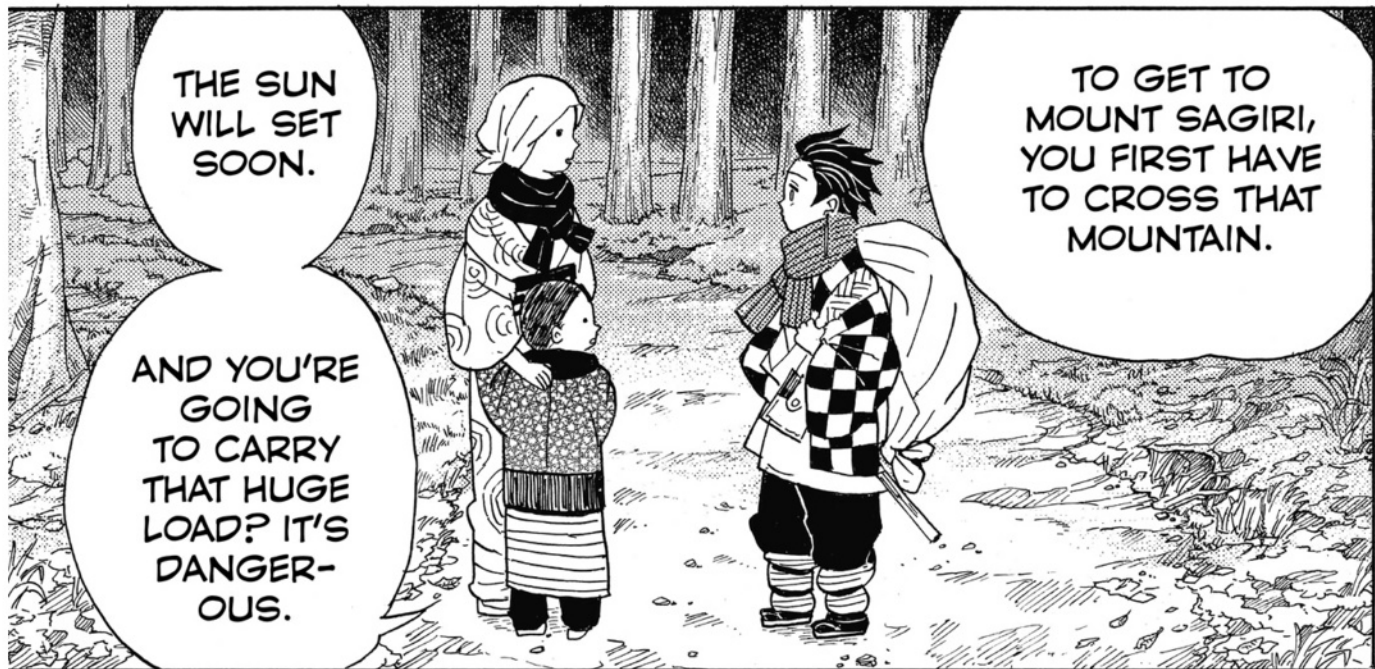
NEZUKO!

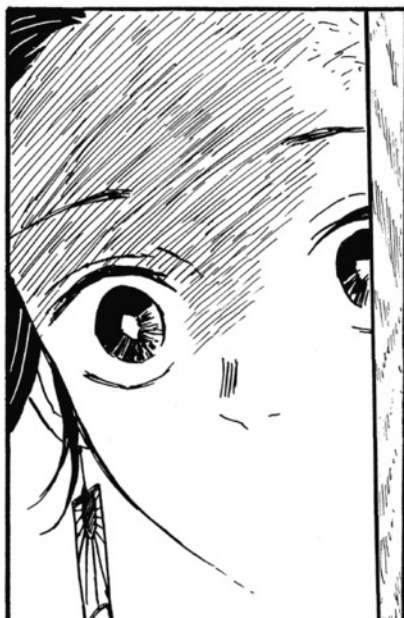
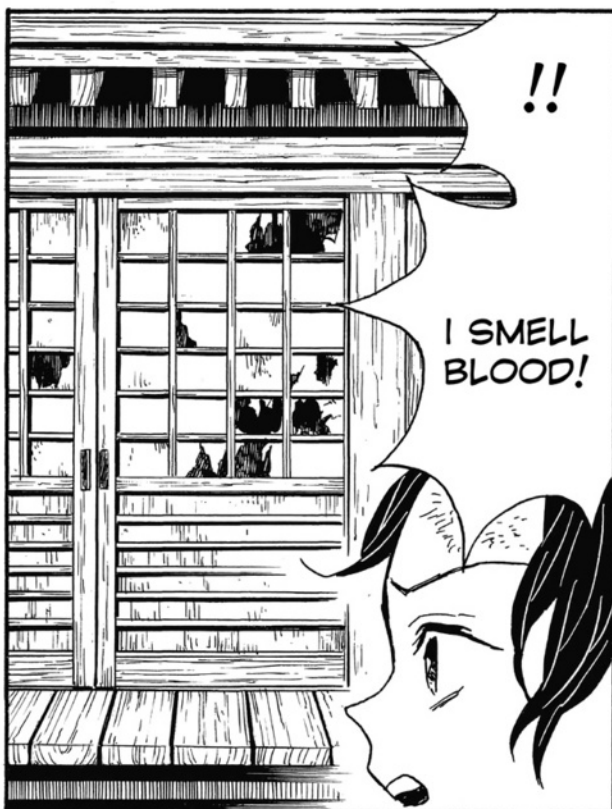
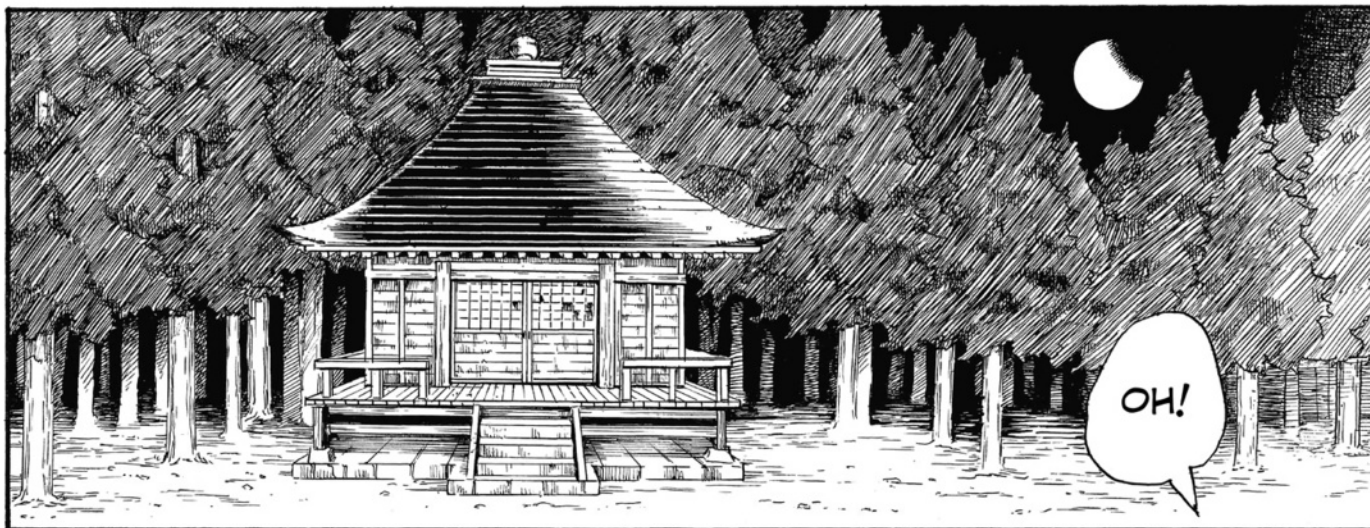
NEZUKO...



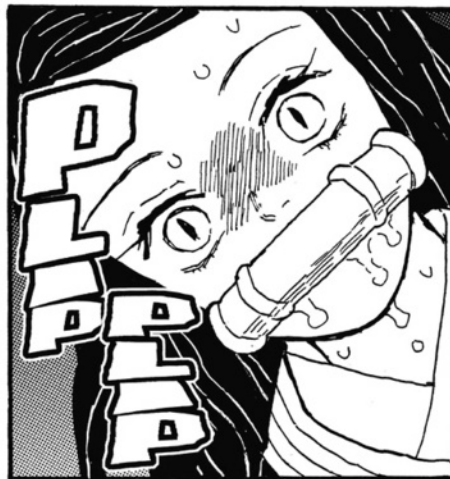
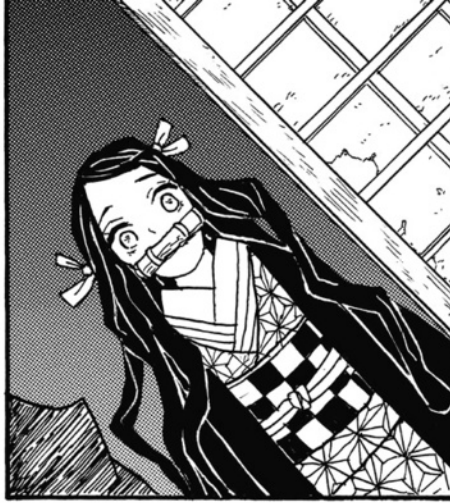
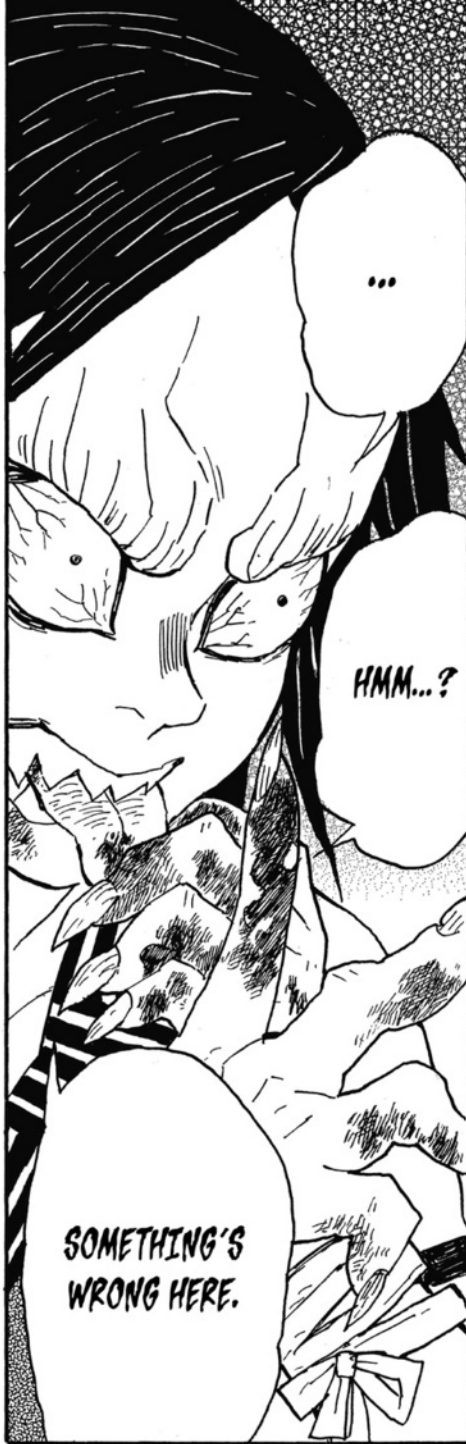


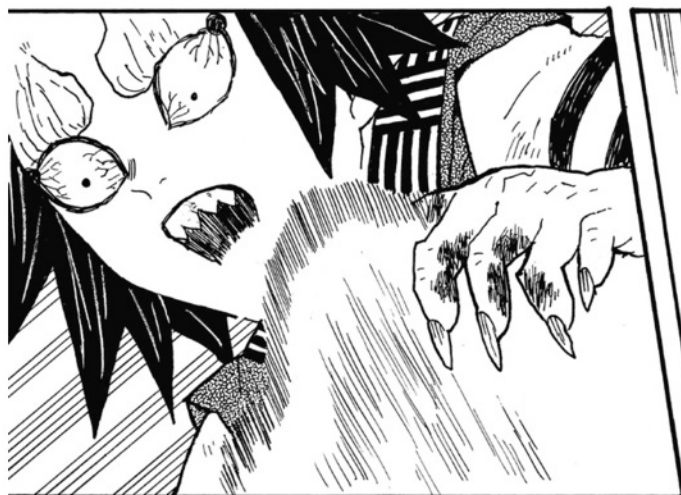
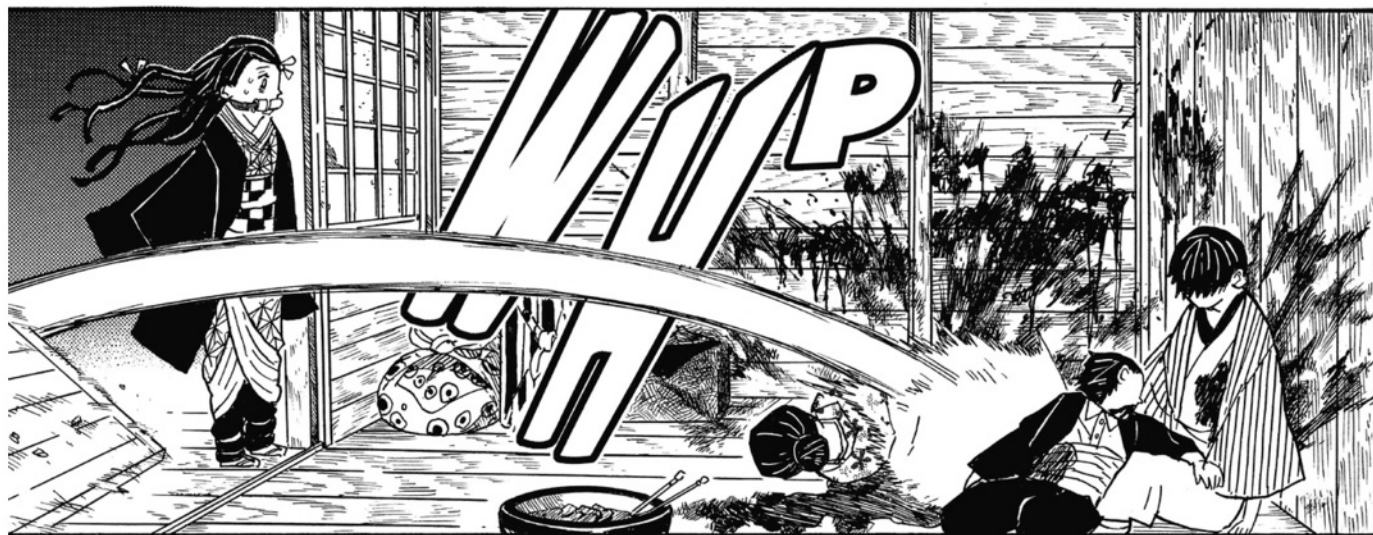




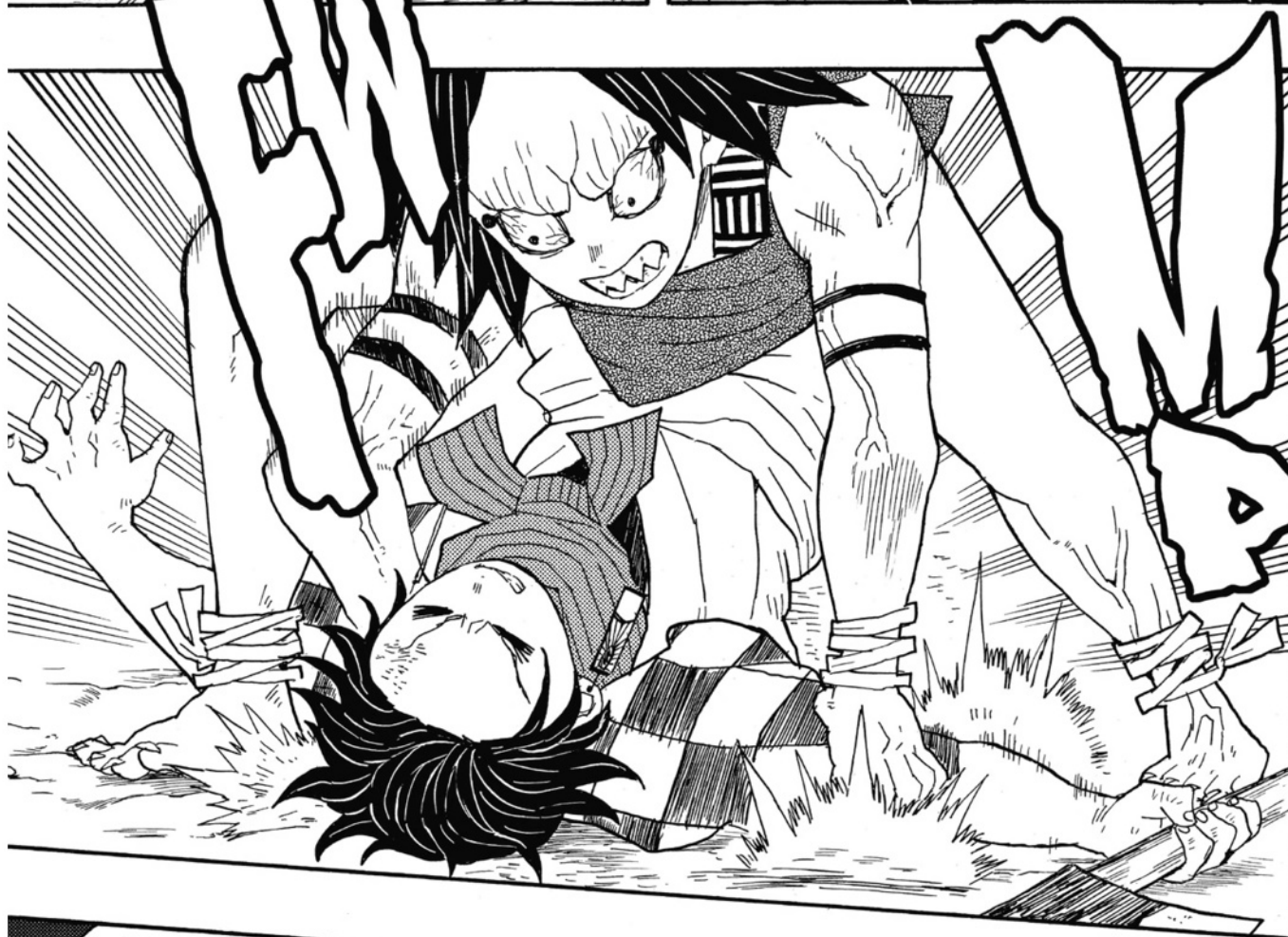


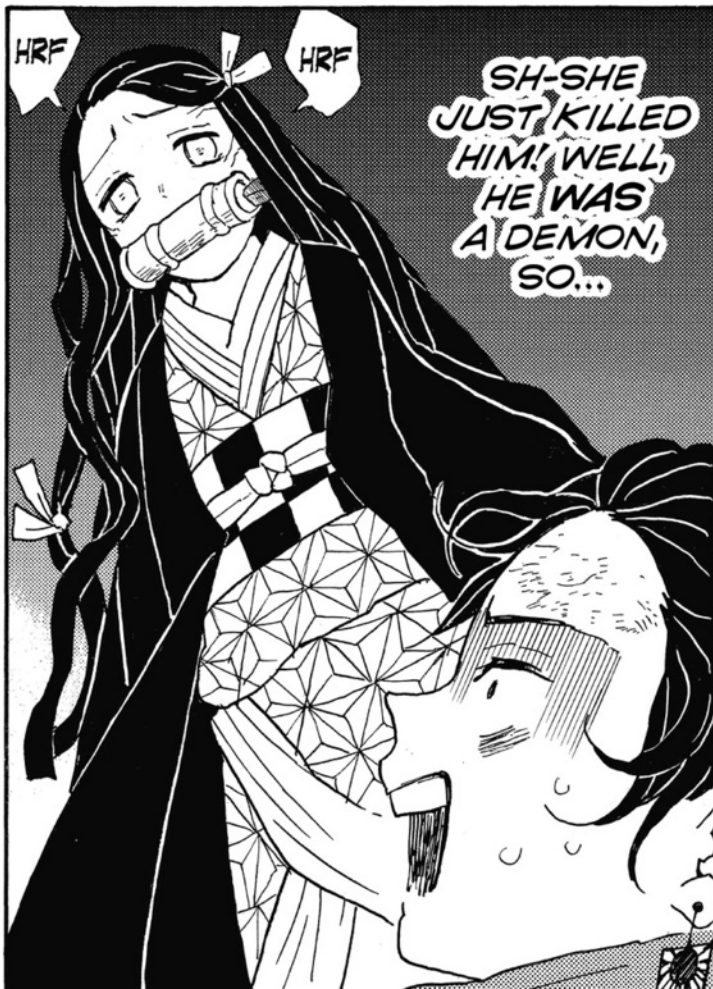




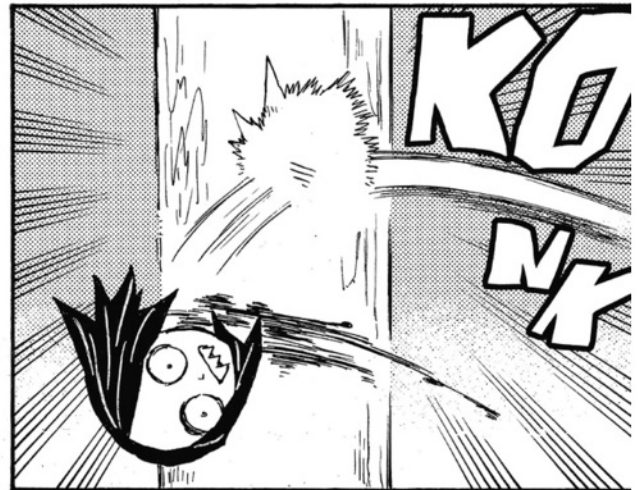


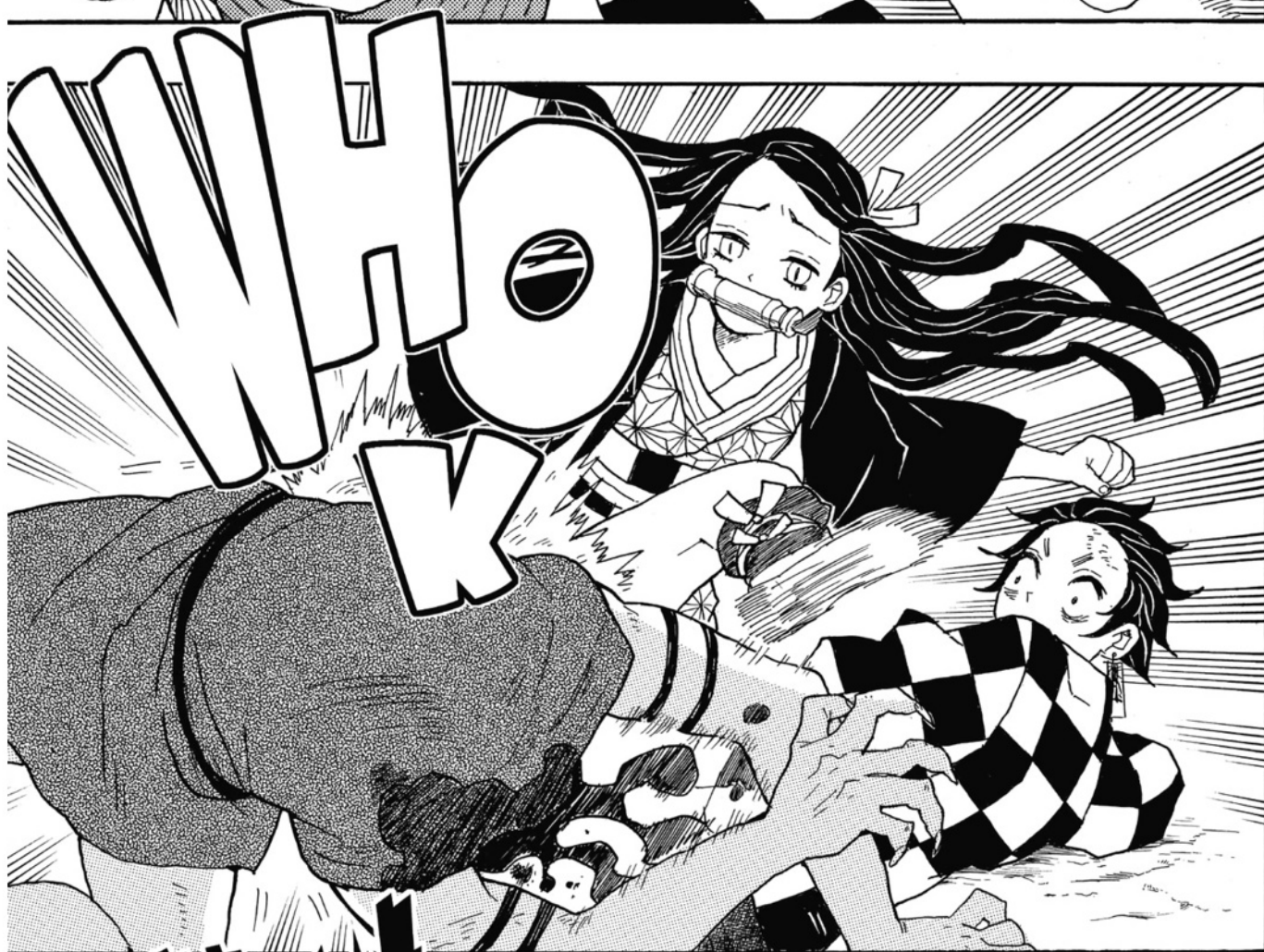
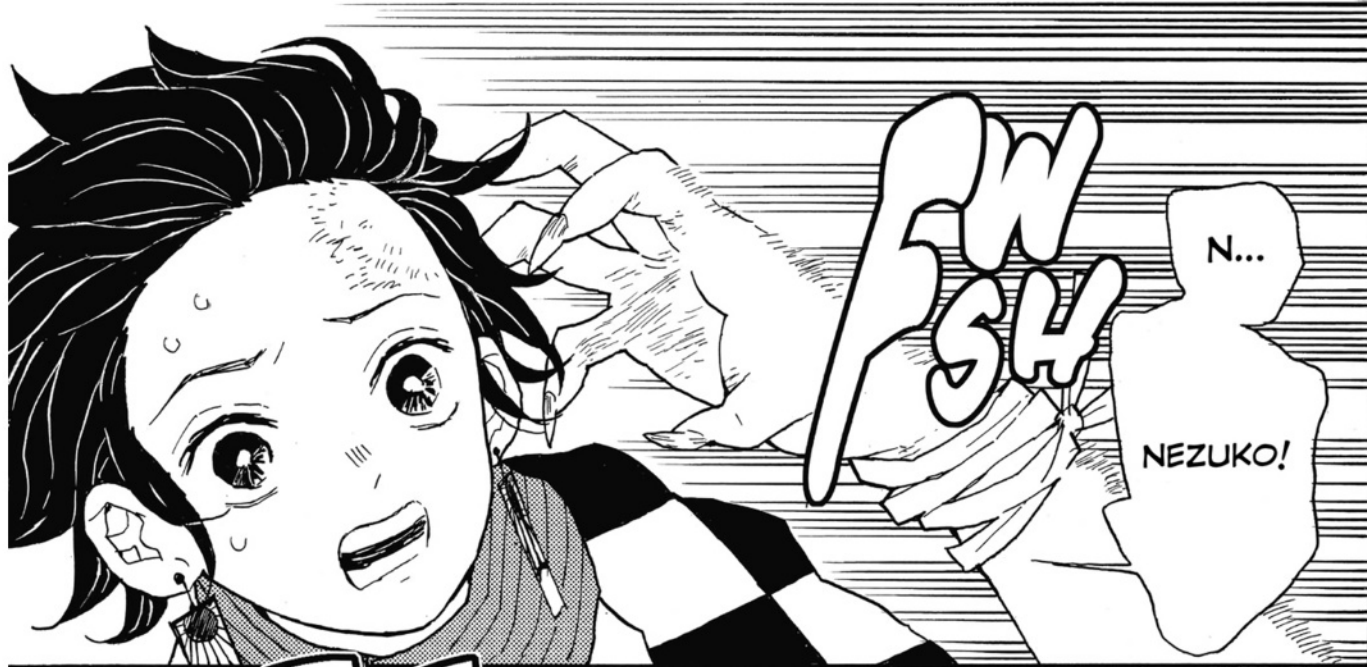






SH-SHE
JUST KILLED
HIM! WELL,
HE WAS
A DEMON,
SO...

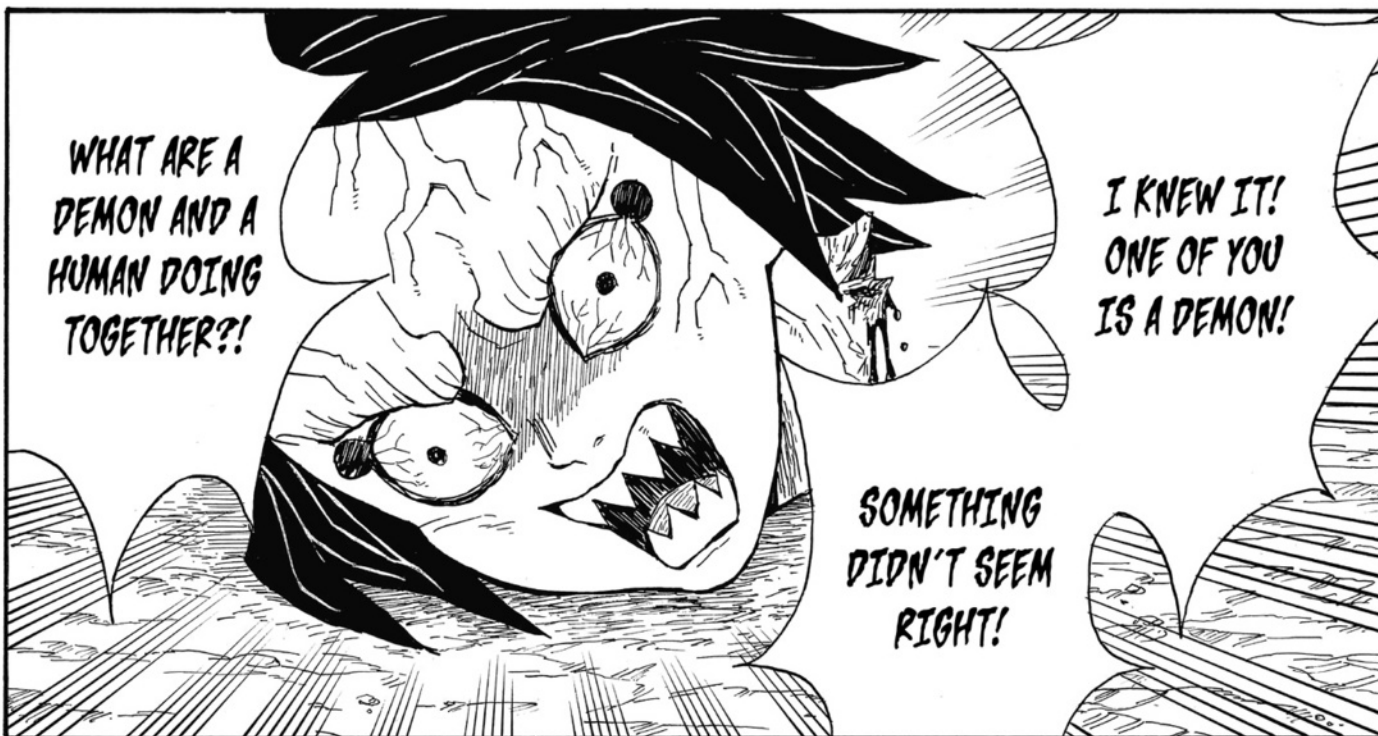






WHY
YOUUU
...!

I CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT! IT JUST
MOVED
WITH ITS
HEAD
RIPPED
OFF!



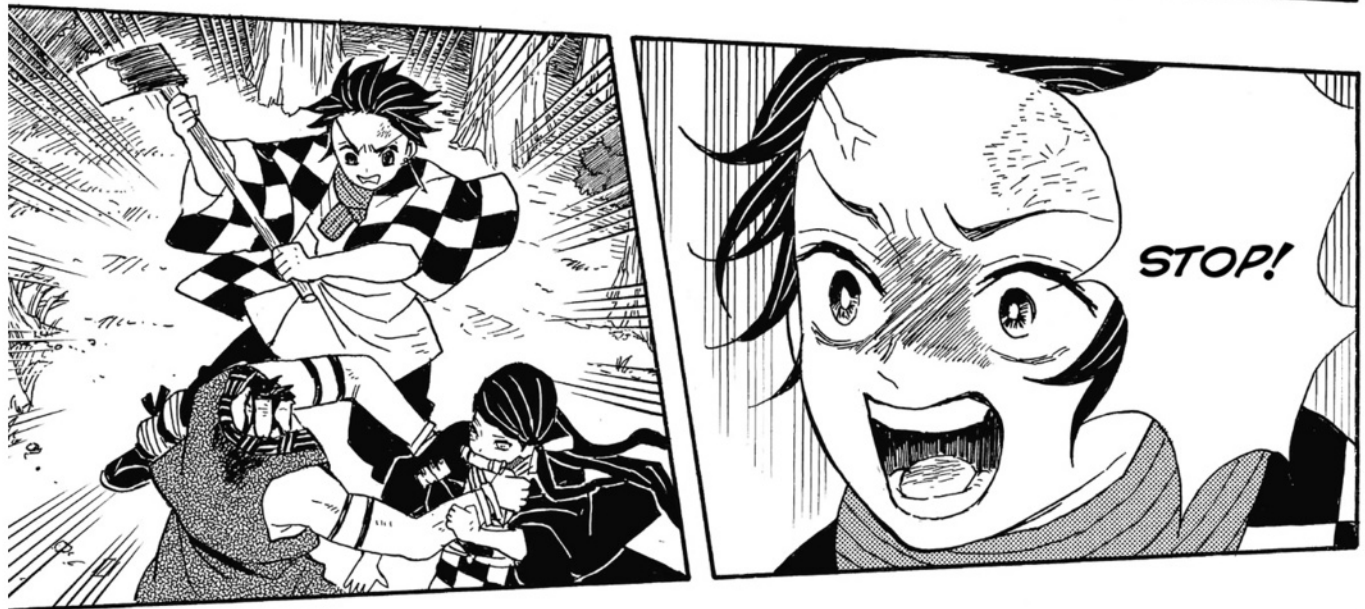
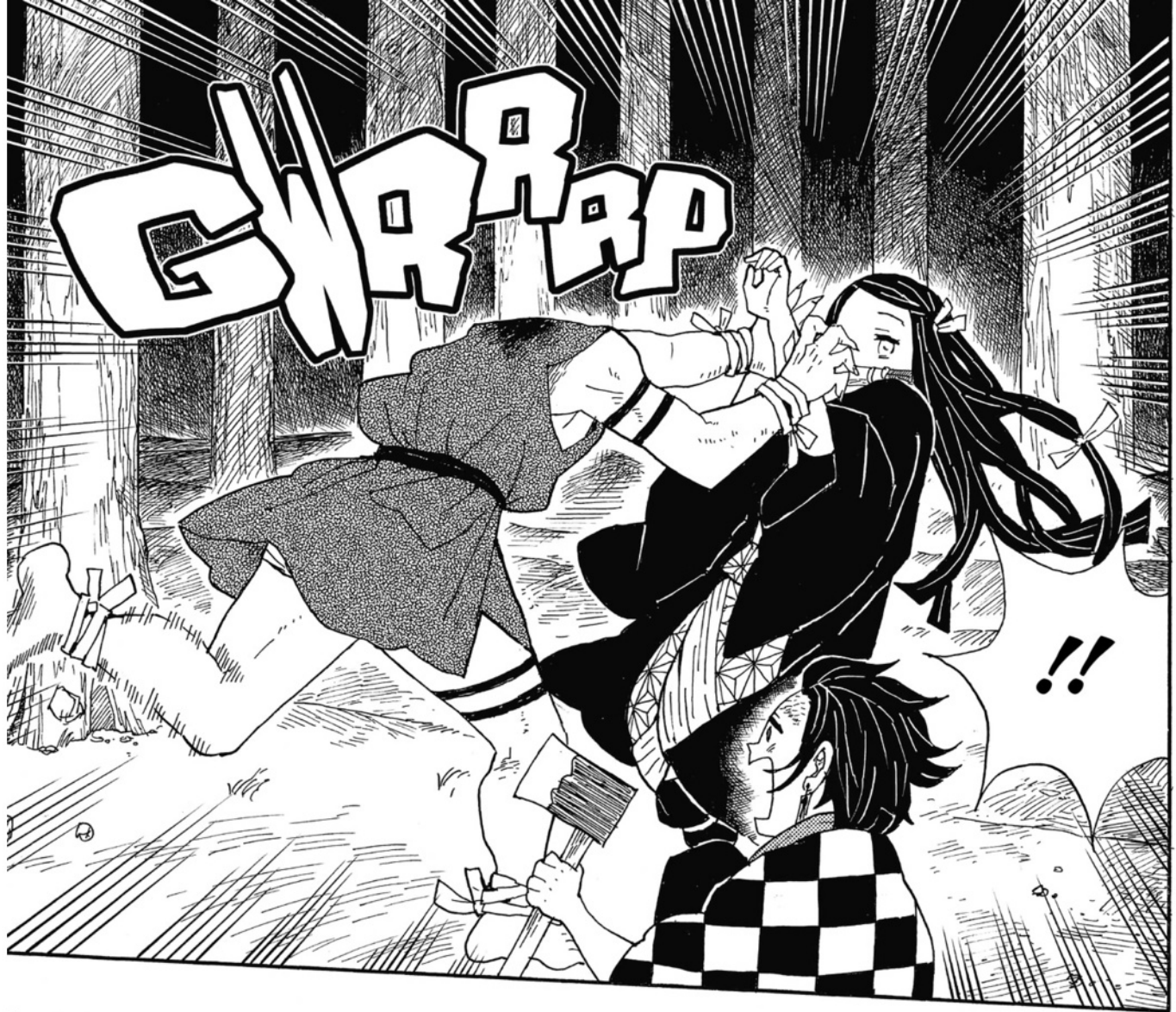
WHAT ARE A
DEMON AND A
HUMAN DOING
TOGETHER?!

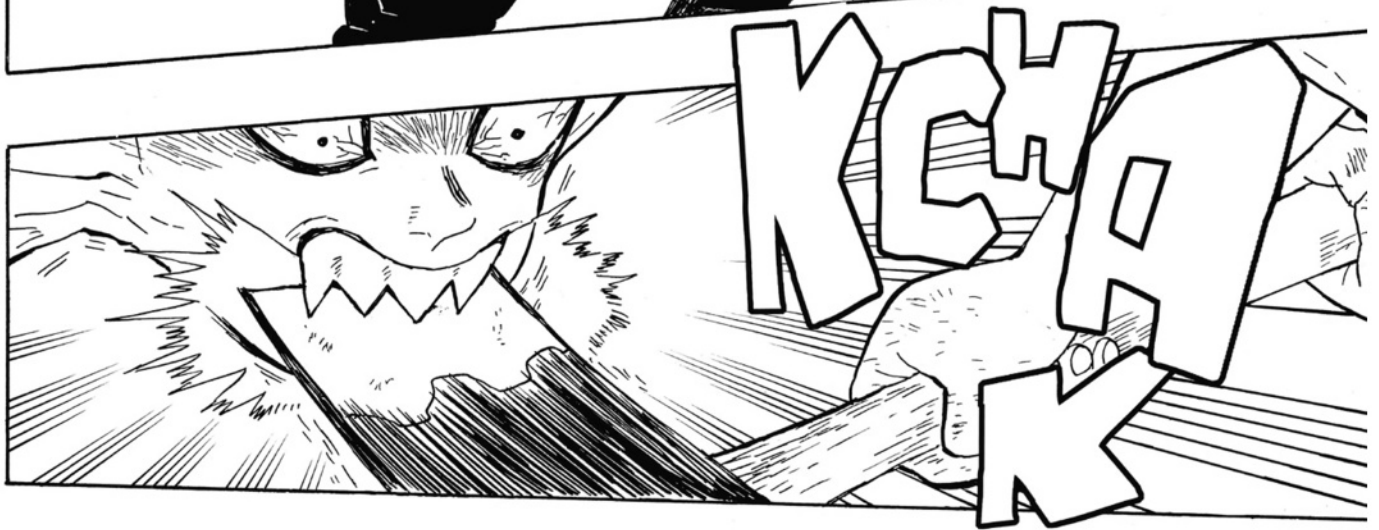
I KNEW IT!
ONE OF YOU
IS A DEMON!

SOMETHING
DIDN'T SEEM
RIGHT!



IT'S
STILL
TALK-
ING!!



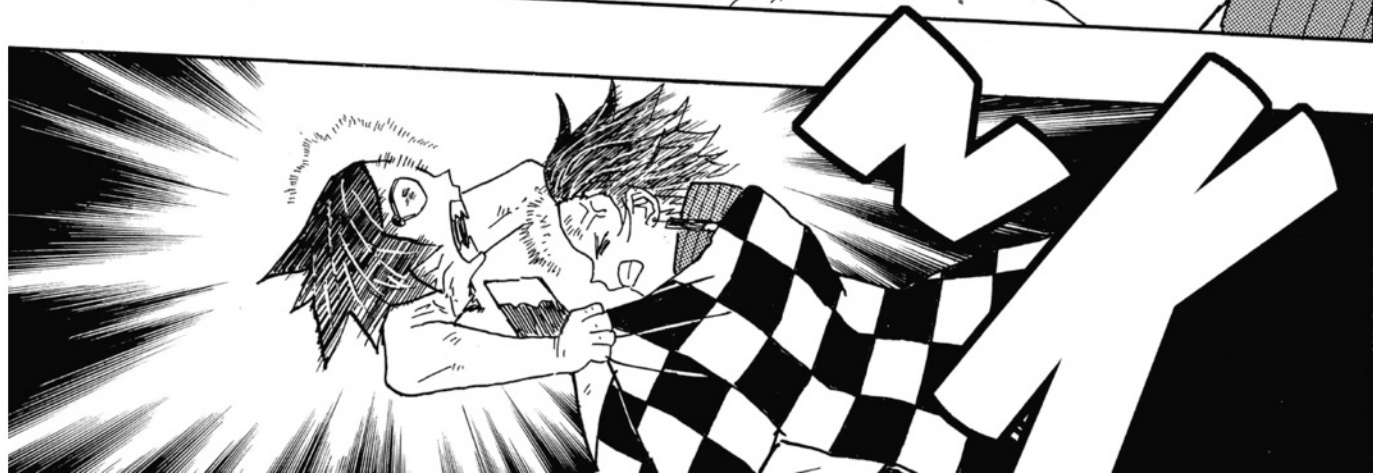




**GET
OFF
OF
ME!**

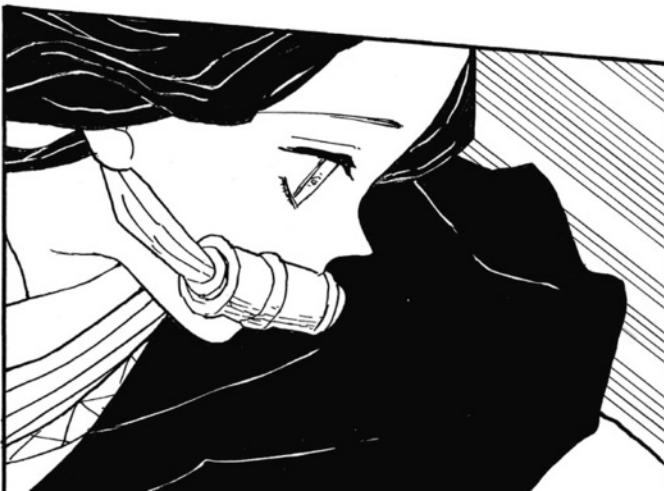


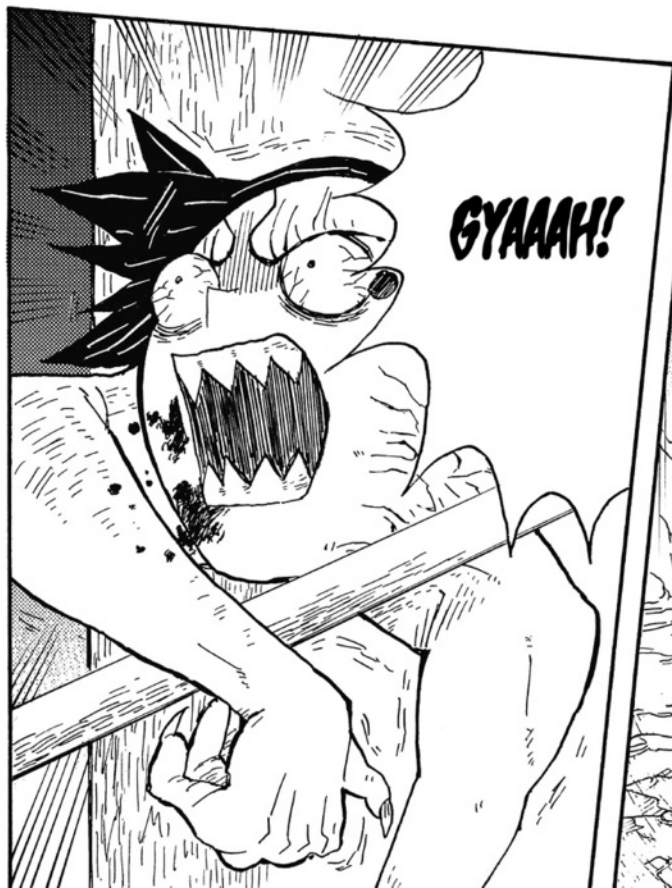
WHAT THE-?
THE HEAD
GREW ARMS?!





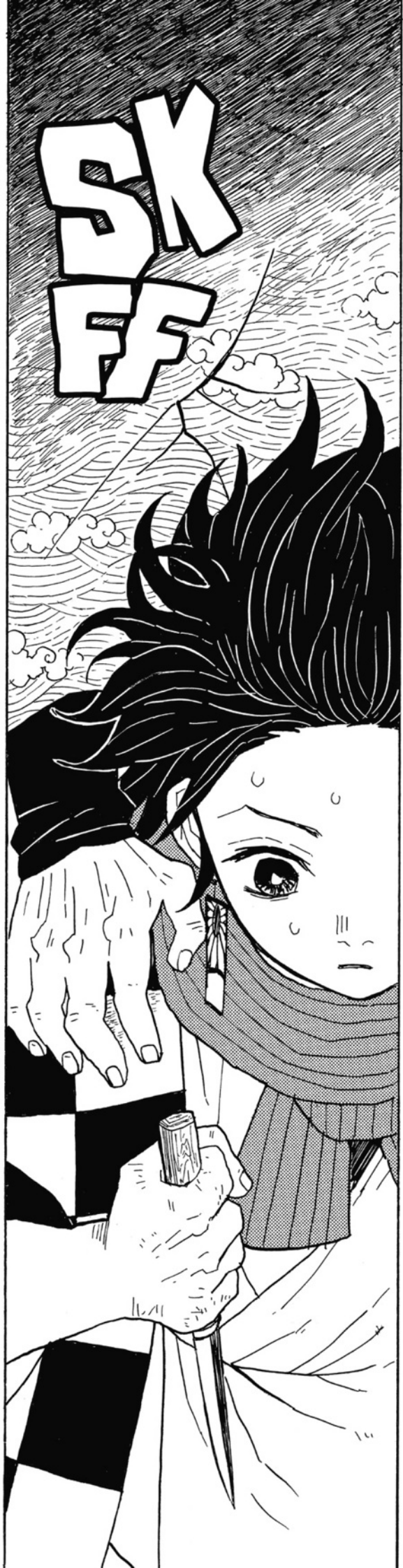






GYAAAH!





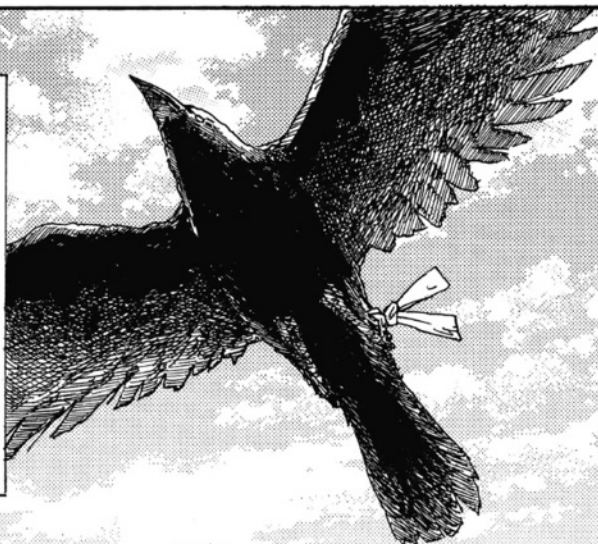
PRODUCTION ART, ILLUSTRATION ②



CHAPTER 3: RETURN BY DAWN



...LORD
SAKONJI
UROKODAKI.



GREETINGS
...

A DEMON
SLAUGH-
TERED HIS
FAMILY...

HE HAD THE
COURAGE TO
FIGHT ME
UNARMED.



I HAVE SENT
A BOY YOUR
WAY WHO SAYS
HE WANTS TO
BECOME A
DEMON-SLAYING
SWORDSMAN.



...BUT SHE
CHOOSES
NOT TO
ATTACK
HUMANS.



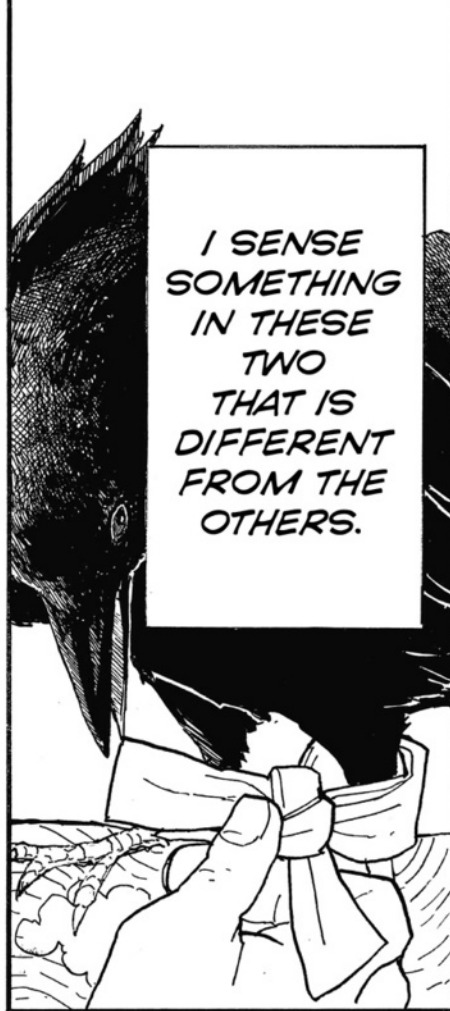
...TRANS-
FORMING
HIS SURVIV-
ING SISTER
INTO A
DEMON...



I
BELIEVE
THAT
PERHAPS
...



LIKE YOU,
THE BOY HAS
A STRONG
SENSE OF
SMELL.



I SENSE
SOMETHING
IN THESE
TWO
THAT IS
DIFFERENT
FROM THE
OTHERS.



I KNOW
THIS IS A
SELFISH
REQUEST,
SO PLEASE
FORGIVE
ME.



...HE COULD
BE WORTHY
OF CARRYING
ON YOUR
TRADITIONS.



PLEASE,
TRAIN
HIM.



SIN-
CERELY
...

...GIYU
TOMIOKA.

...AND IN
GOOD
SPIRITS.

MAY THIS
FIND YOU
IN GOOD
HEALTH...



DON'T
TRUST
WHAT
OTHERS
SAY.

CAN'T YOU
SOLVE THIS
RIDDLE
YOURSELF?

HE
MOVED IN
COMPLETE
SILENCE.



H...

HOW CAN
I FINISH IT
OFF?

A
TENGU
MASK!



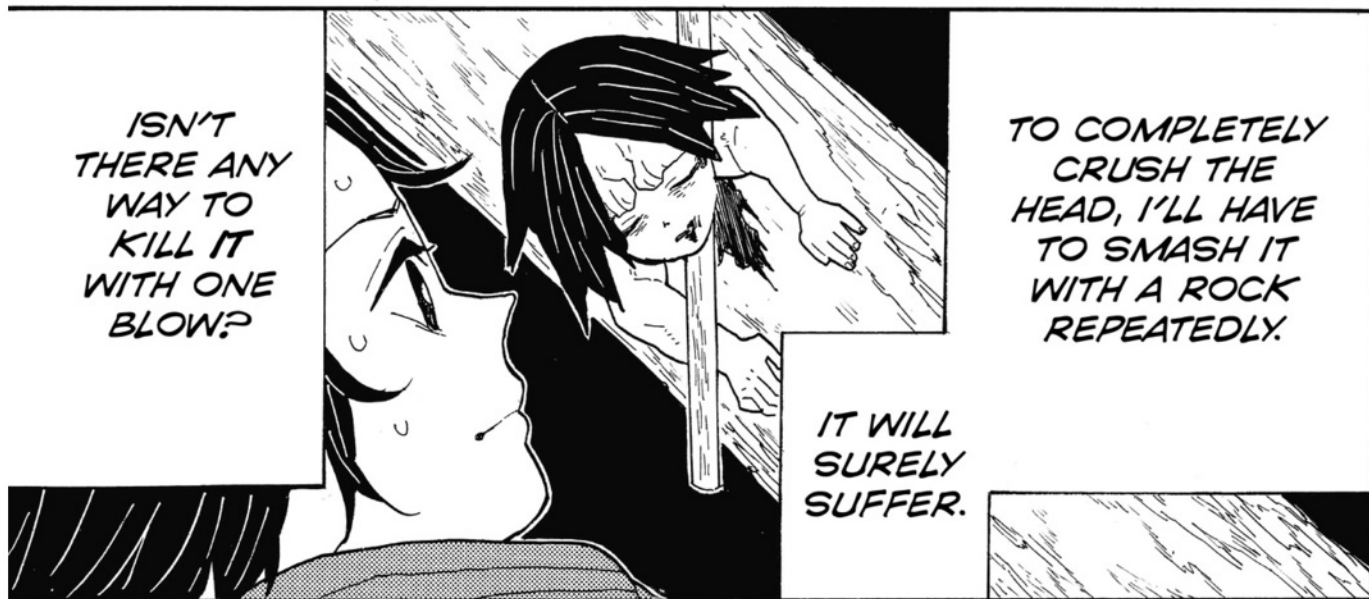
I'LL HAVE
TO CRUSH
THE
HEAD...



NNGH



IF STAB-
BING IT
WON'T
WORK...



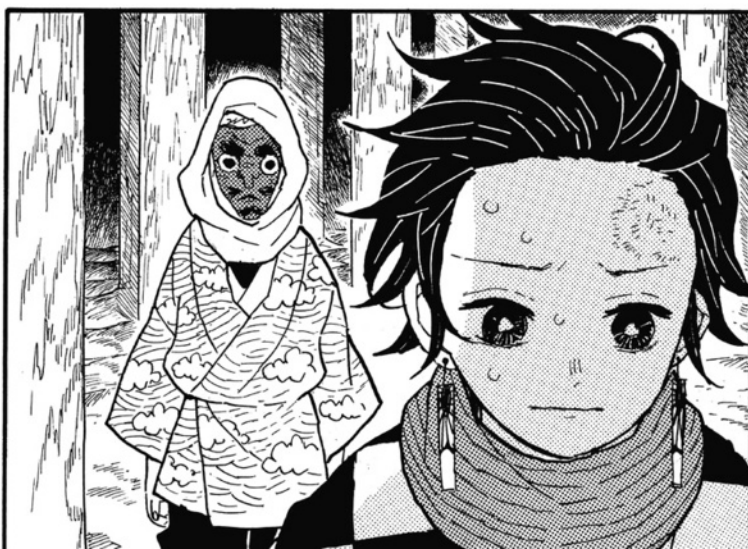
ISN'T
THERE ANY
WAY TO
KILL IT
WITH ONE
BLOW?

TO COMPLETELY
CRUSH THE
HEAD, I'LL HAVE
TO SMASH IT
WITH A ROCK
REPEATEDLY.

IT WILL
SURELY
SUFFER.



SNIFF





WHEN
FACING A
DEMON,
HE STILL
REEKS
OF
SYMPATHY
AND CON-
SIDERATION.

HE EVEN
FEELS
SYMPATHY
FOR A
DEMON.



HIS
KINDNESS
PREVENTS
HIM FROM
TAKING
DECISIVE
ACTION.



DAMN
...

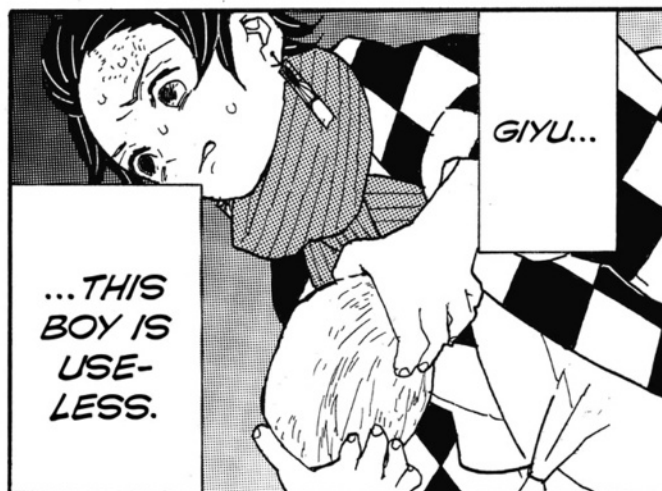
...THIS
KID
IS NO
GOOD.



I WAS
UNCONSCIOUS.

I
FEEL
SICK.

IS MY
BODY
DEAD?



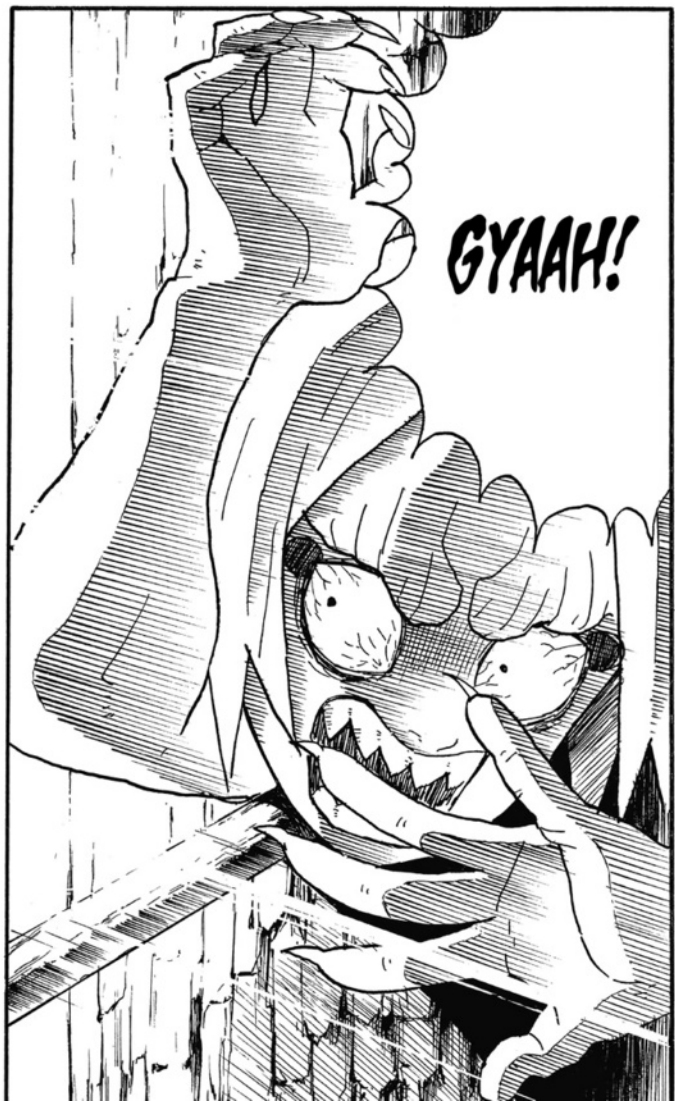
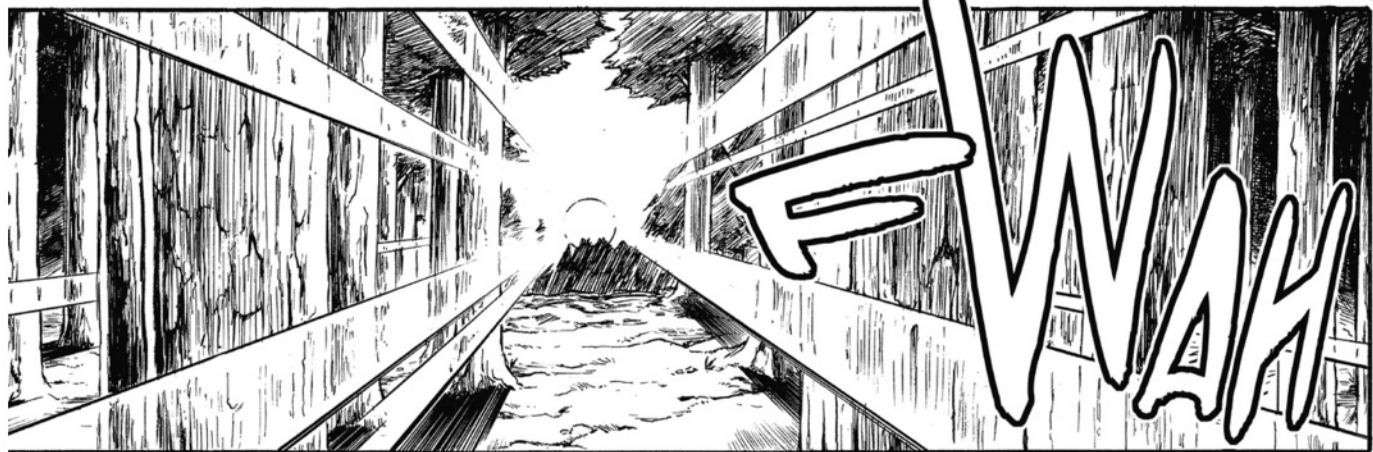
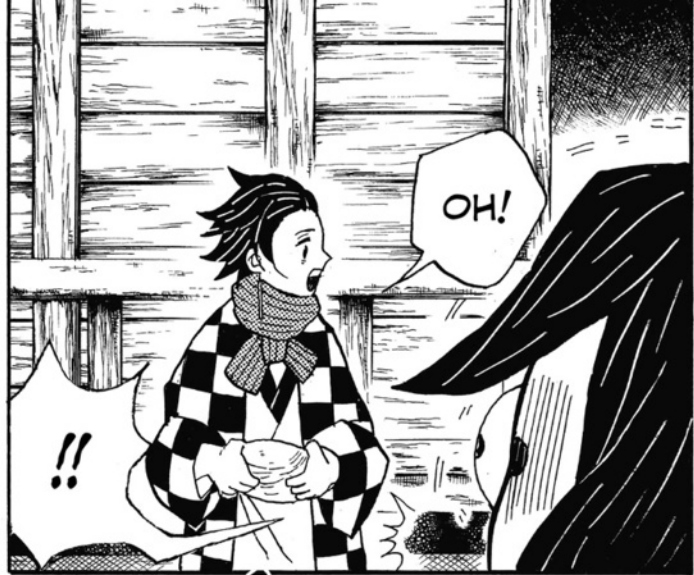
GIYU...

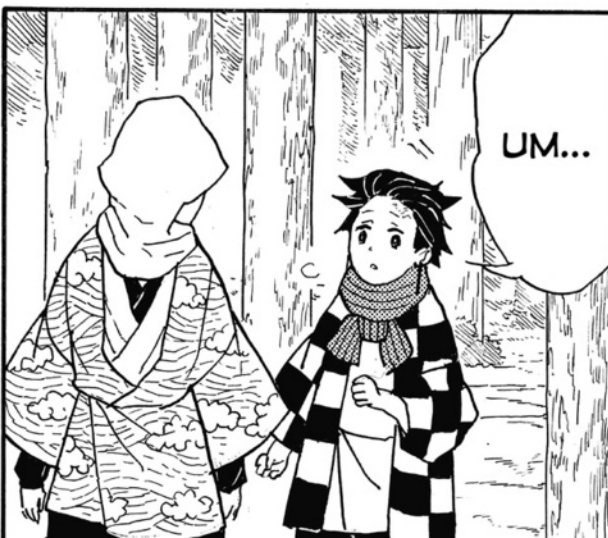
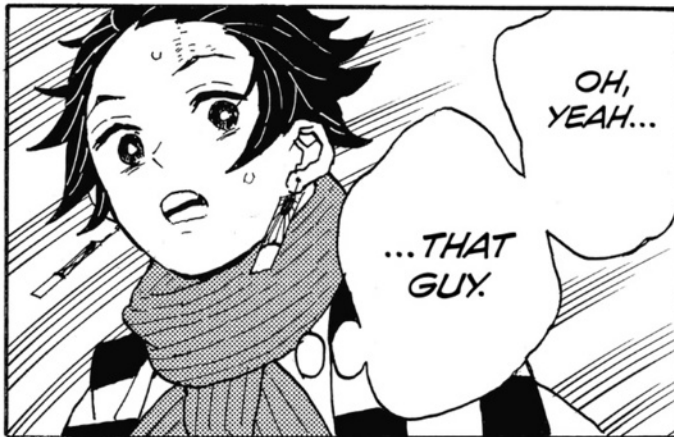
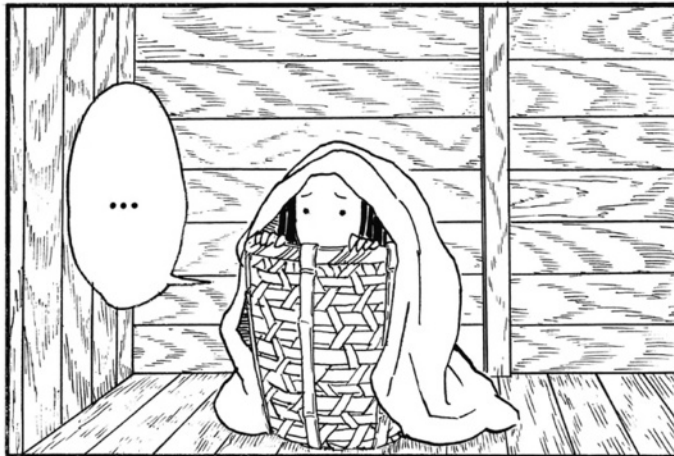
...THIS
BOY IS
USE-
LESS.



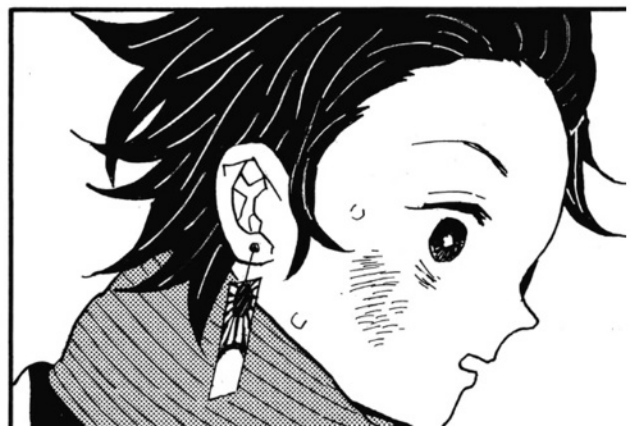
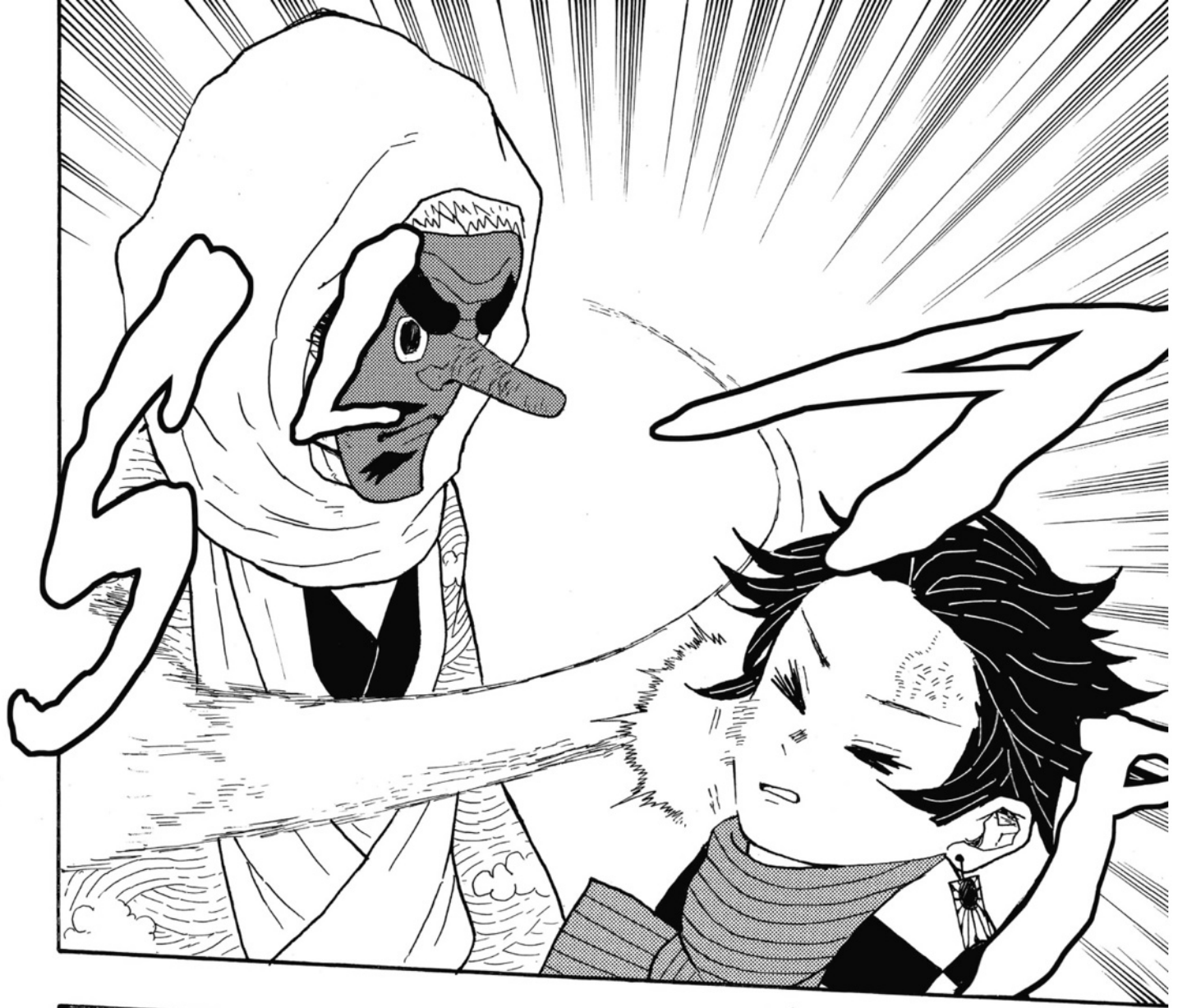
WHA-?













WHY
COULDN'T YOU
ANSWER THAT
QUESTION
IMMEDIATELY?

YOU ARE
TOO
SOFT!

...

YOU COULD
NEVER FINISH
OFF A DEMON
BEFORE THE
MORNING
LIGHT.

YOU
STRUGGLE
OVER THE
SIMPLEST
DECISIONS.



THAT IS WHAT
IT MEANS TO
TRAVEL WITH
YOUR SISTER
WHO HAS
BECOME A
DEMON!

WHEN YOUR
SISTER EATS
SOMEONE,
THERE ARE
TWO THINGS
YOU HAVE TO
DO...

KILL YOUR
SISTER...
THEN SLIT
YOUR OWN
BELLY AND
DIE!



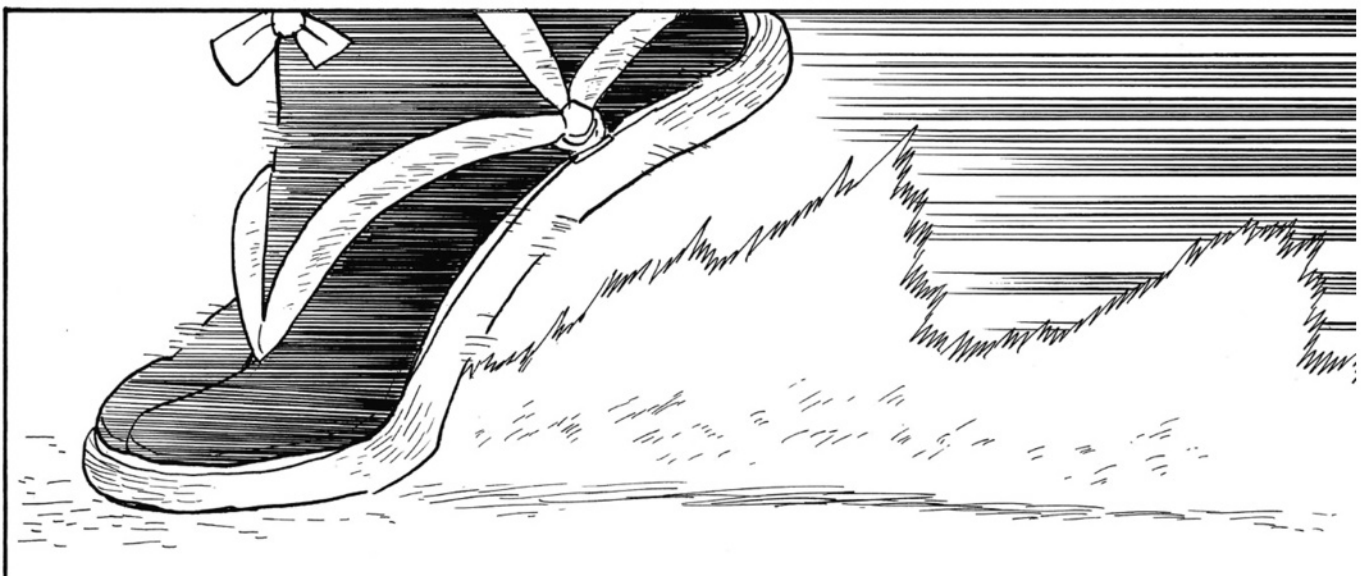
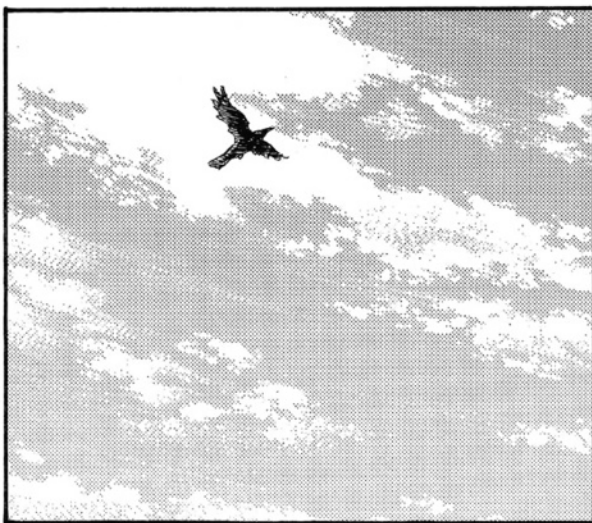
DO YOU
UNDER-
STAND
WHAT I AM
SAYING?

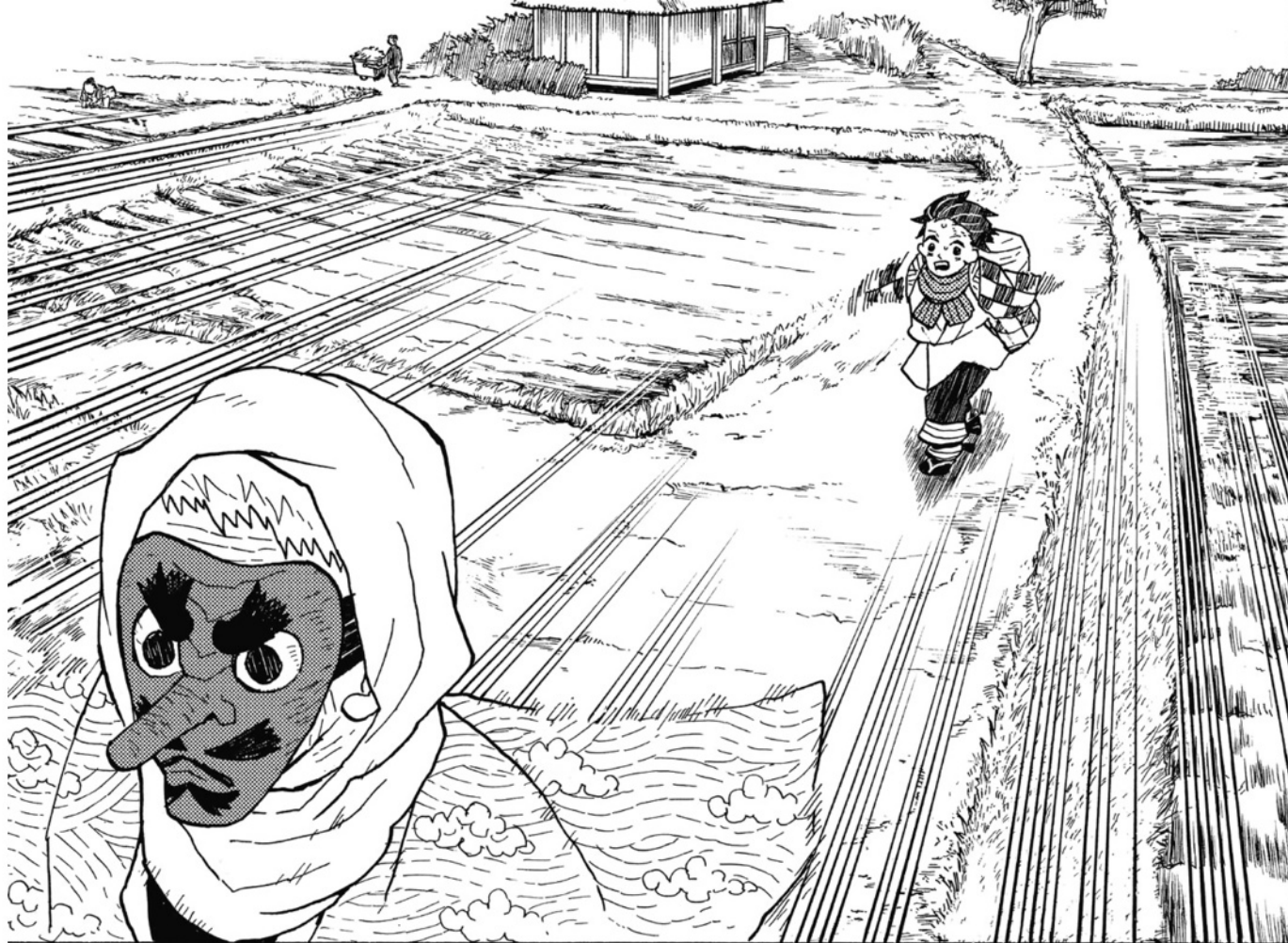


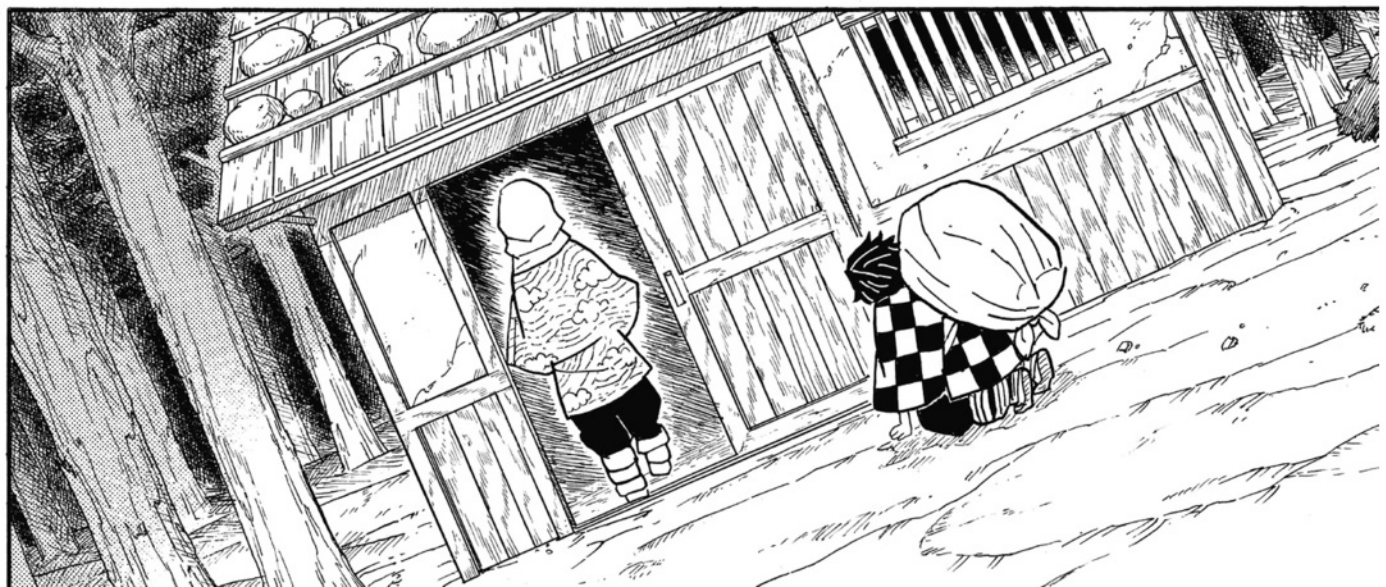
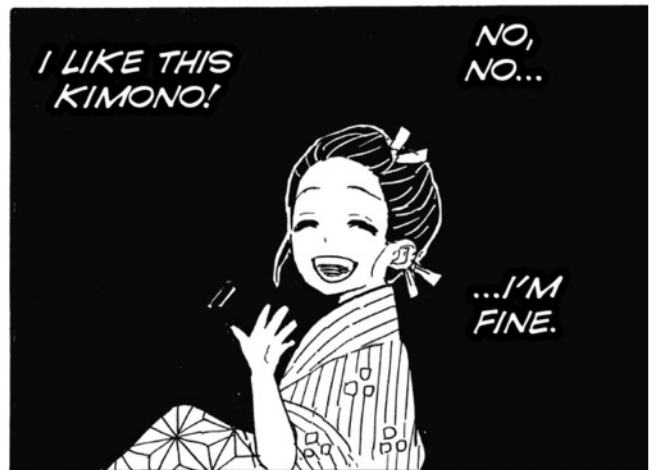
YOUR SISTER
MUST *NEVER*
TAKE THE
LIFE...

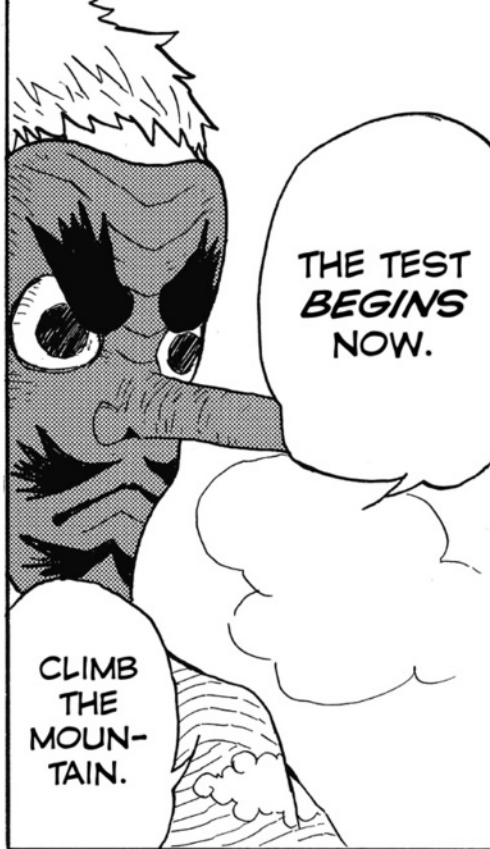
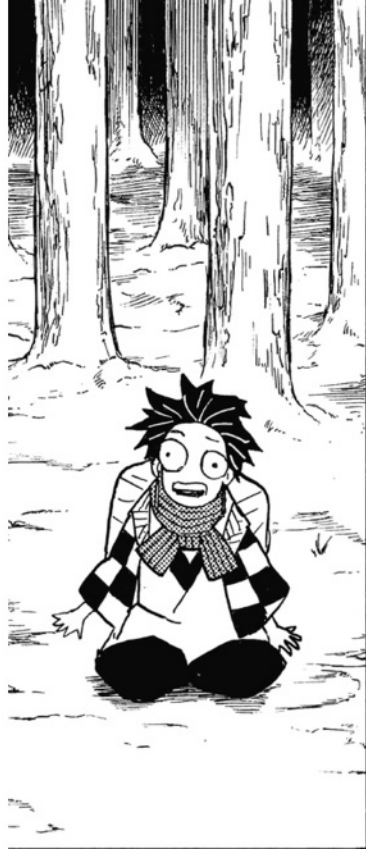
...OF AN
INNOCENT
PERSON!

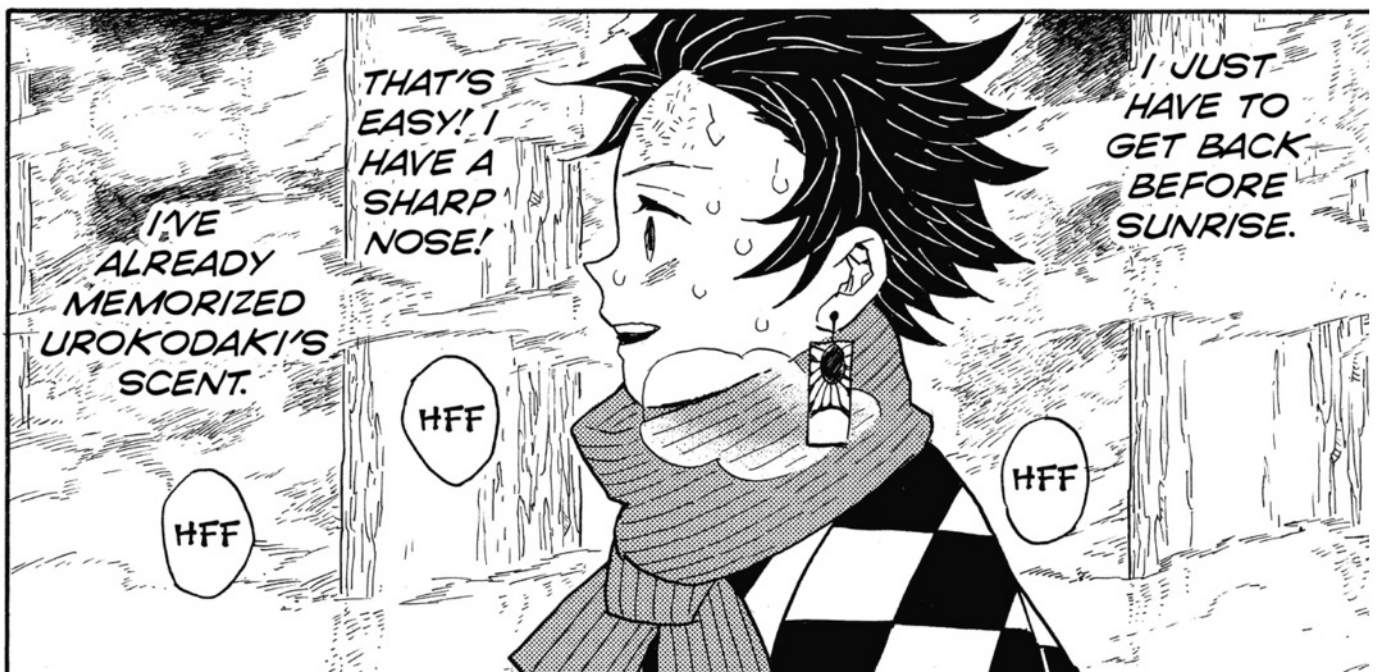
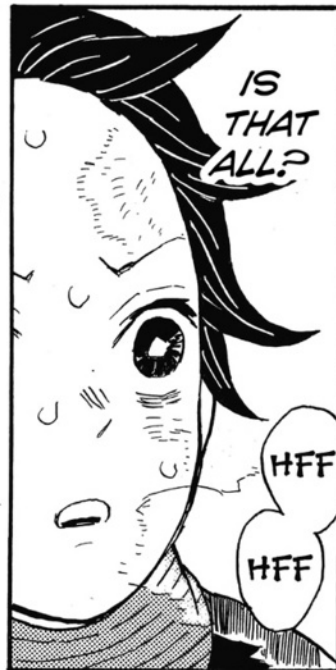
BUT IT
IS YOUR
SACRED DUTY
TO ENSURE
THAT THIS
NEVER
HAPPENS.

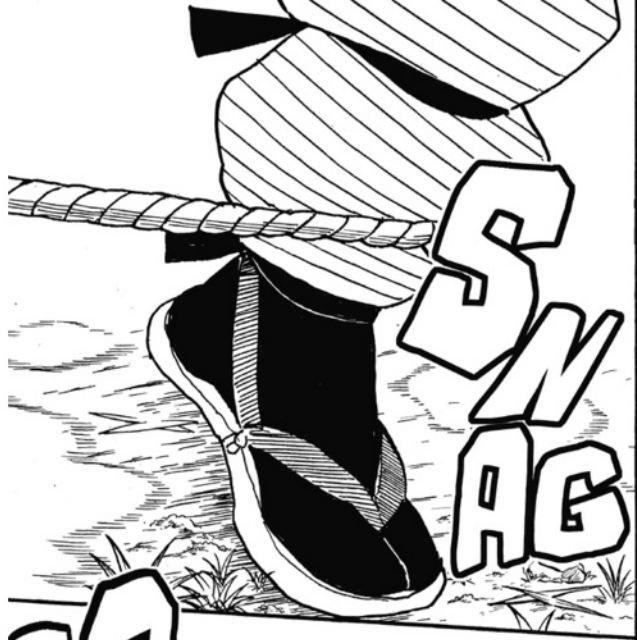












SNAG



WHEN

EVEN IF I
CAN'T SEE
HIM, I CAN
STILL
FOLLOW HIM
ALL THE WAY.



YOW YOW YOW

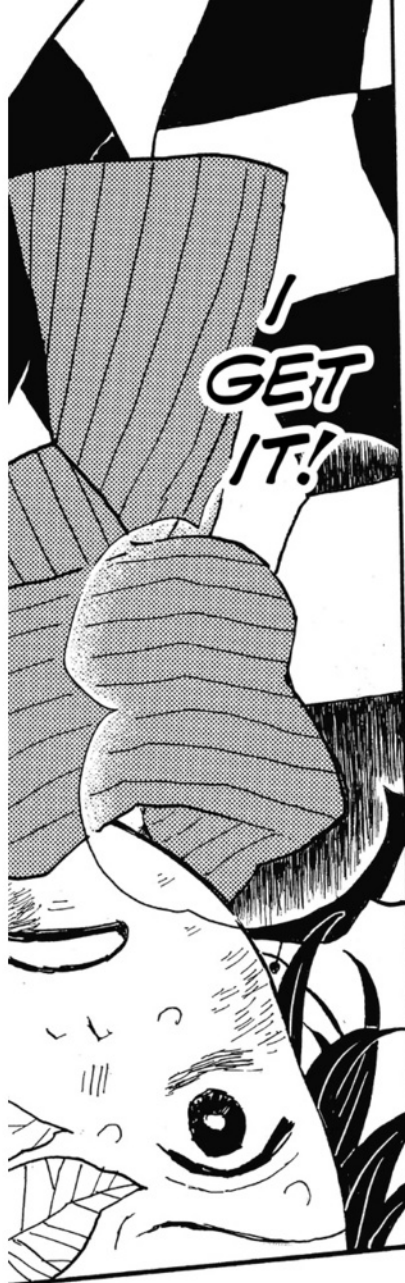


?!



WHAP WHAP WHAP





I
GET
IT!



A
COVERED
PIT!

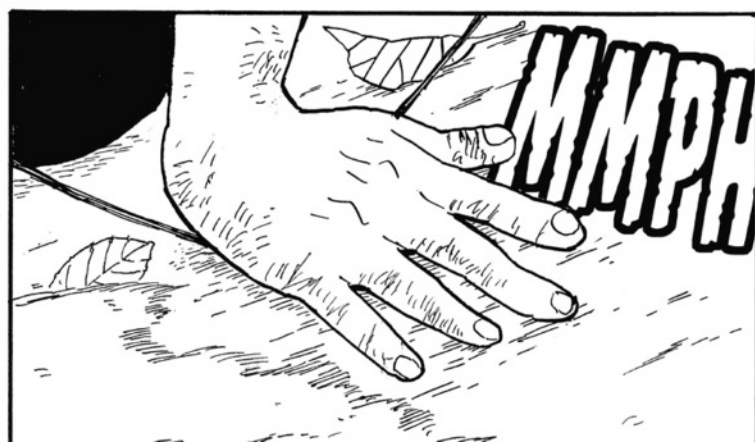


UH-OH!
HERE
WE GO
AGAIN!

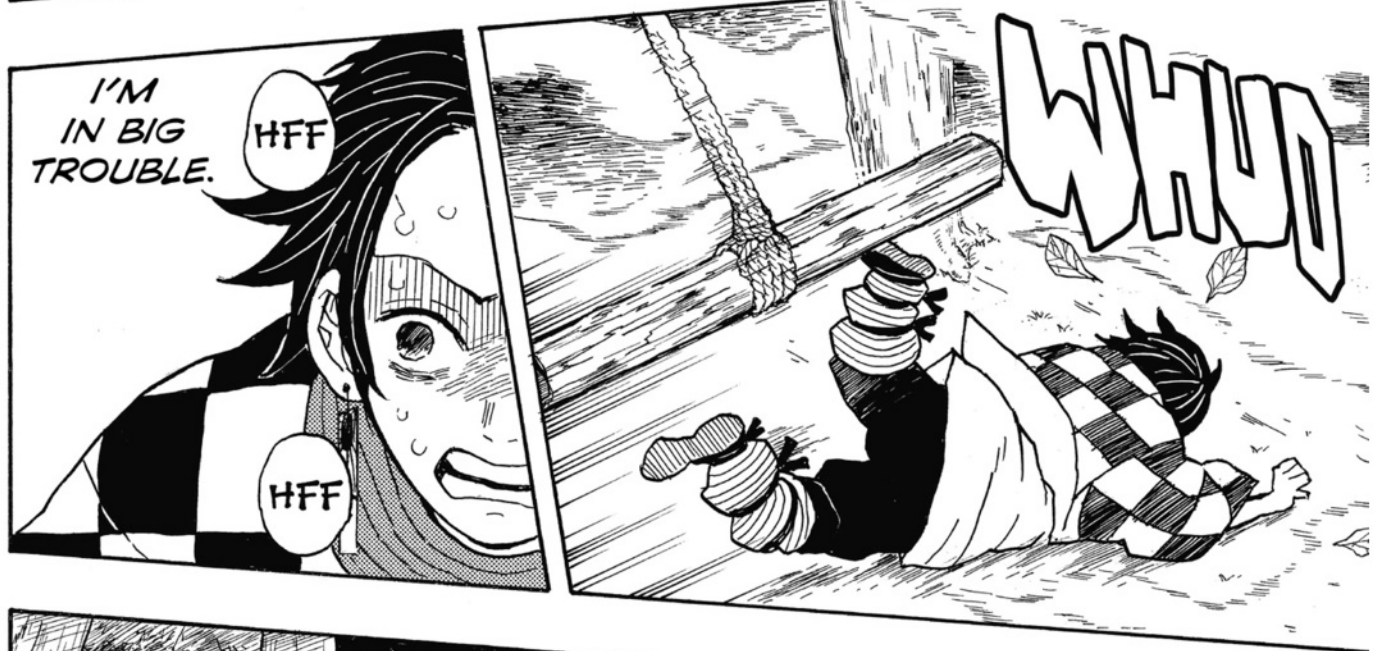
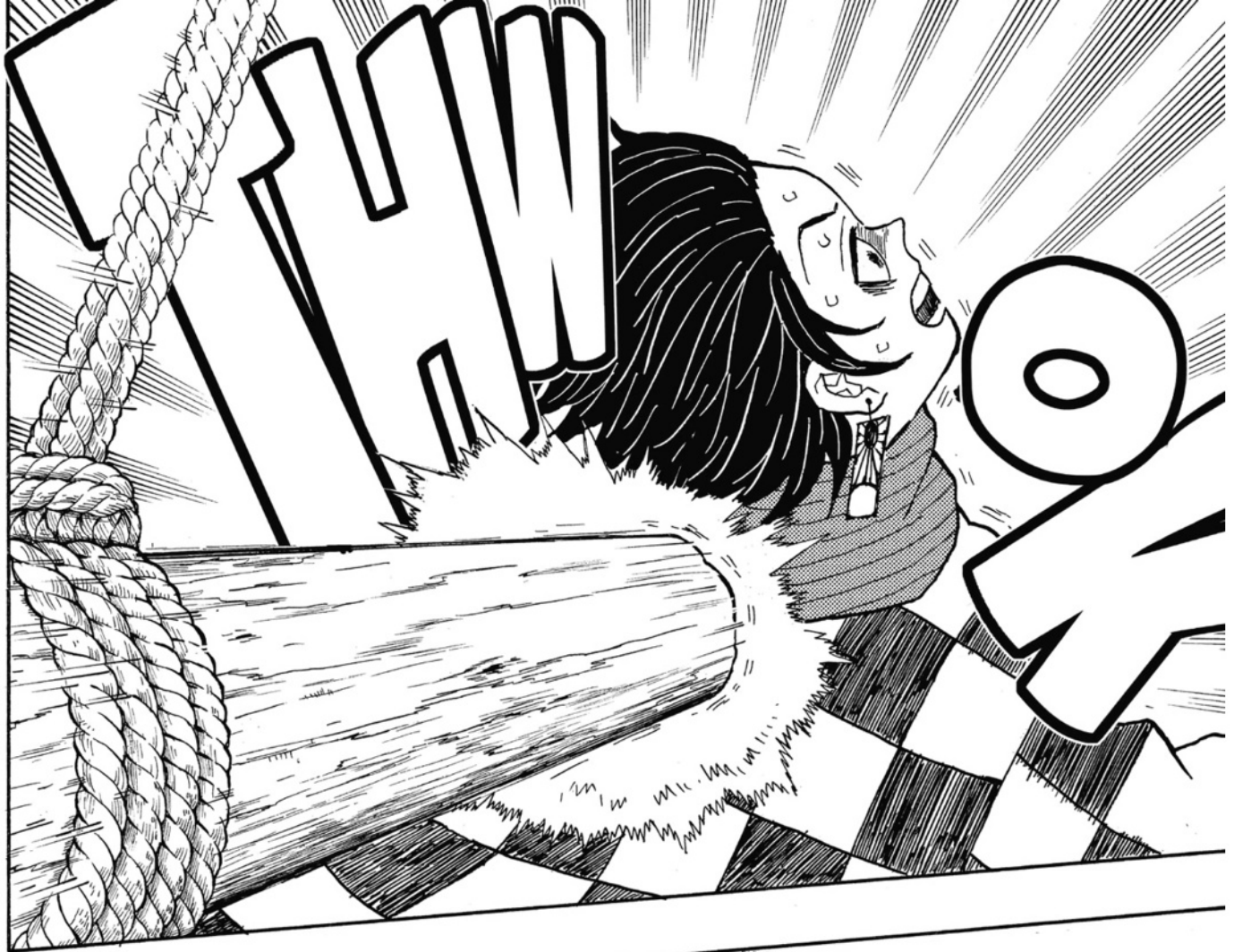


THESE
ARE ALL
TRAPS.

THAT'S
THE
CHALLENGE!



MMPH



I'M
IN BIG
TROUBLE.

HFF

HFF



AND I JUST
NOTICED...
UP ON THIS
MOUNTAIN...

IF I KEEP
SETTING OFF
EVERY TRAP,
I WON'T GET
DOWN THE
MOUNTAIN BY
MORNING.



IT'S MUCH
WORSE
THAN THE
MOUNTAIN
WE LIVED
ON!

...THE AIR'S
SO THIN I
CAN BARELY
BREATHE!

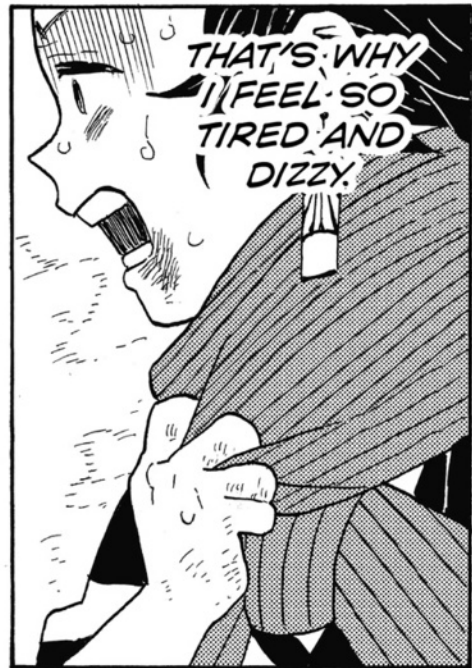


CONTROL
YOUR
BREATHING.
SNIFF OUT
THE TRAPS.

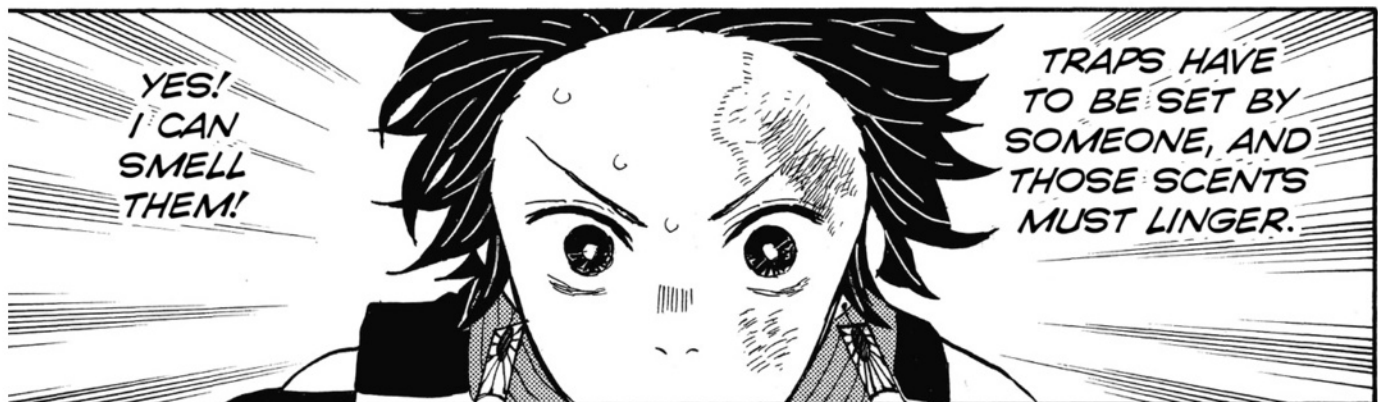


I FEEL
LIKE I
MIGHT
PASS
OUT!

NO! I'VE
GOTTA
GET
BACK!

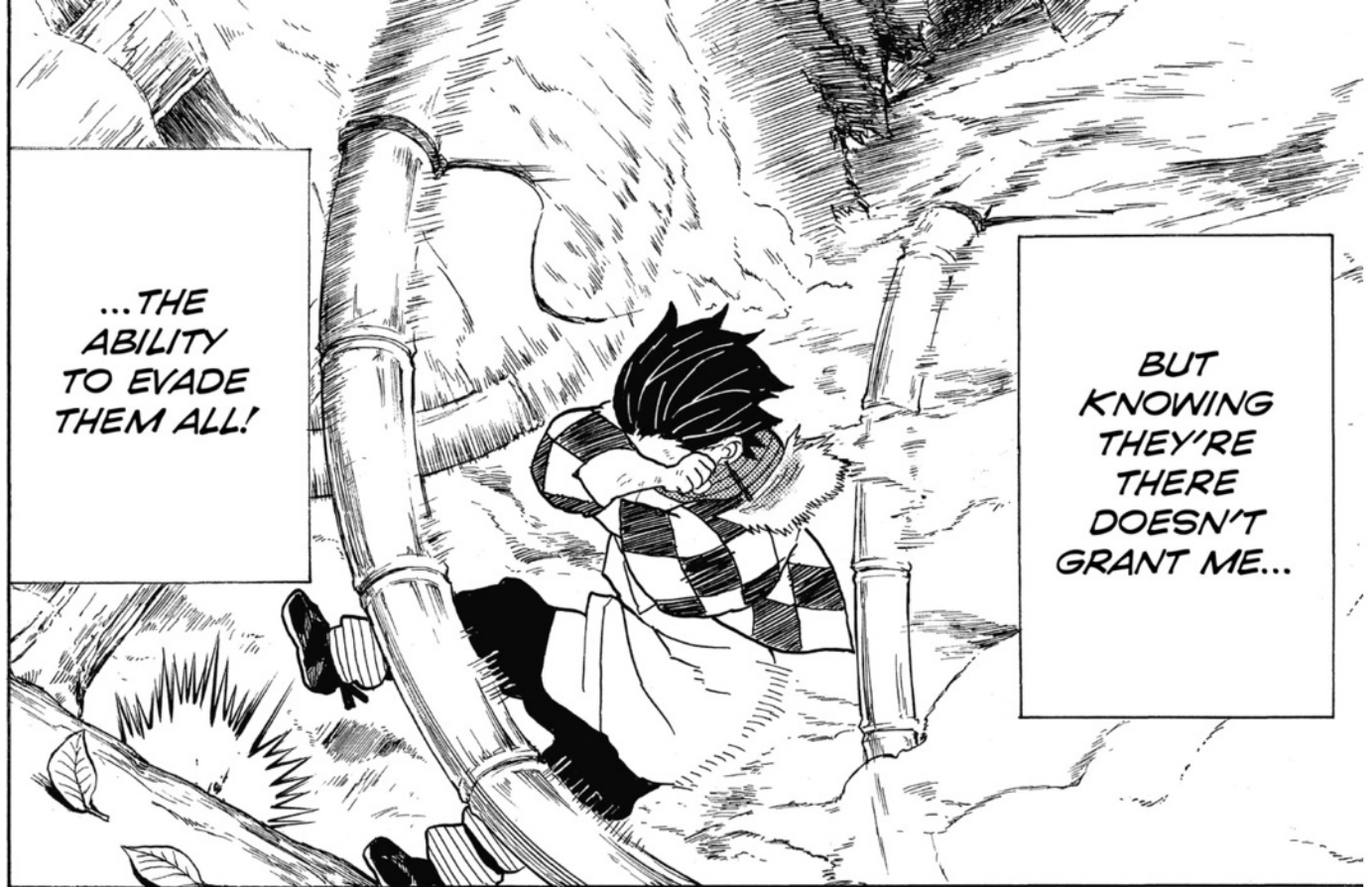


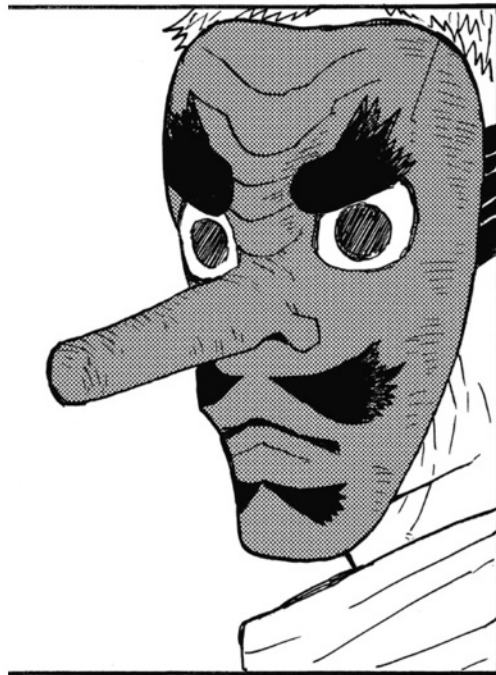
THAT'S WHY
I FEEL SO
TIRED AND
DIZZY.



YES!
I CAN
SMELL
THEM!

TRAPS HAVE
TO BE SET BY
SOMEONE, AND
THOSE SCENTS
MUST LINGER.





Taisho Whispers & Rumors

- 鬼滅奇譚 (Mysterious Story of the Demon Slayer)
(Kimetsu Kitan)
- 鬼鬼滅滅 (Demon Demon Slayer Slayer)
(Kikimetsumetsu)
- 悪鬼滅々 (Evil Demon Slayer)
(Akkimetsumetsu)
- 鬼殺の刃 (Sword of the Demon Killer)
(Kisatsu no Yaiba)
- 滅々鬼譚 (Strange Tale of the Demon Slayer)
(Metsumetsu Kitan)
- 鬼殺譚 (Tale of the Demon Killer)
(Kisatsutan)
- 空想鬼滅奇譚 (The Fantastic Strange Tale of the Demon Slayer)
(Kuso Kimetsu Kitan)
- 鬼狩リカグツチ (Demon Hunting God of Fire)
(Onigari Kagutsuchi)
- 炭のカグツチ (Charred God of Fire)
(Sumi no Kagutsuchi)

* "Kitan" means an unusual and mysterious story.

* "Kagutsuchi" is a god of fire.

I hear these titles were under consideration.

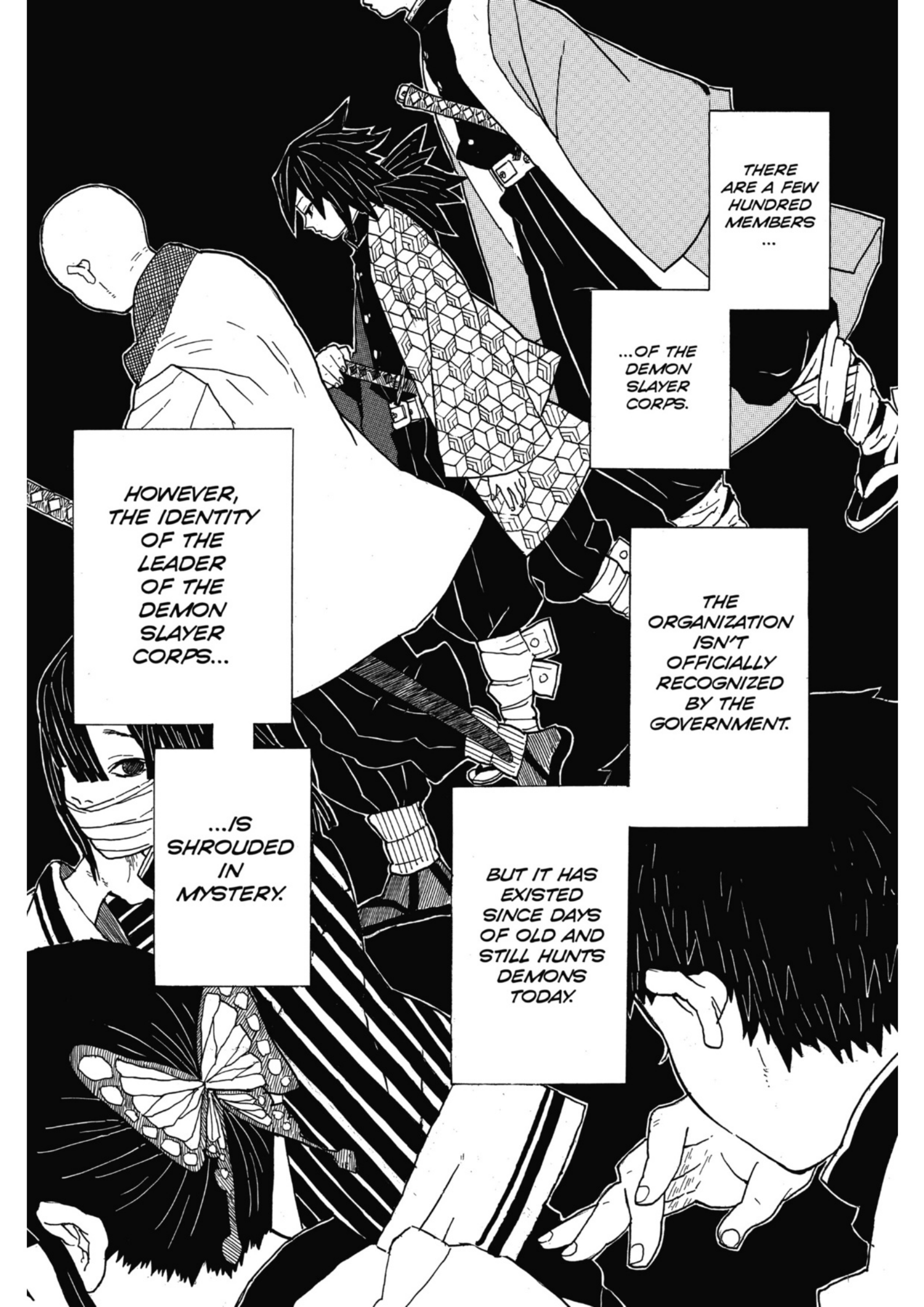
Which one do you like?

Hello, I'm Gotoge.



CHAPTER 4: TANJIRO'S JOURNAL, PART 1





THERE
ARE A FEW
HUNDRED
MEMBERS

...

...OF THE
DEMON
SLAYER
CORPS.

HOWEVER,
THE IDENTITY
OF THE
LEADER
OF THE
DEMON
SLAYER
CORPS...

THE
ORGANIZATION
ISN'T
OFFICIALLY
RECOGNIZED
BY THE
GOVERNMENT.

...IS
SHROUDED
IN
MYSTERY.

BUT IT HAS
EXISTED
SINCE DAYS
OF OLD AND
STILL HUNTS
DEMONS
TODAY.



THEY HAVE
IMPRESSIVE
PHYSICAL
ABILITIES
AND THEIR
WOUNDS HEAL
QUICKLY.

DEMONS.

STAPLE
FOOD:
HUMANS.

THEY CAN
RECONNECT
SEVERED FLESH
AND GROW NEW
LIMBS. SOME
DEMONS CAN
CHANGE FORM.
OTHERS POSSESS
STRANGE POWERS.

THEY KILL
HUMANS
AND EAT
THEM.

THE ONLY WAYS
TO KILL THEM
ARE BY
EXPOSING THEM
TO SUNLIGHT OR
BY CUTTING OFF
THEIR HEADS
WITH A SPECIAL
SWORD.

IT IS
UNCLEAR
WHEN OR
WHERE THEY
FIRST
APPEARED.



THEY ARE HUMAN,
SO THEIR WOUNDS
HEAL SLOWLY AND
LOST LIMBS DO
NOT RETURN.

THE DEMON
SLAYER CORPS
FIGHTS DEMONS
FACE-TO-FACE.

NONETHE-
LESS, THEY
FIGHT
DEMONS IN
ORDER TO
PROTECT
ORDINARY
PEOPLE.



THERE ARE
MANY TRAINERS.
IN DIFFERENT
PLACES, THEY
USE VARIOUS
TRAINING
METHODS.

I AM A
TRAINER.

JUST
LIKE IT
SOUNDS,
I TRAIN
SWORDS-
MEN.



I DECIDE
WHETHER
YOU MAY
ATTEMPT
FINAL
SELECTION.

IN ORDER TO
JOIN THE DEMON
SLAYER CORPS,
YOU MUST SURVIVE
THE FINAL
SELECTION
AT MOUNT
FUJIKASANE.



AGAIN
TODAY, I
DESCENDED
THE
MOUNTAIN.

I TRAIN AS
HARD AS I
CAN SO I
WON'T DIE
DURING
FINAL
SELECTION.

STARTING
TODAY, I HAVE
DECIDED TO
WRITE THIS
JOURNAL FOR
NEZUKO.



I'M
GROWING
STRONGER
...

...AND
MY NOSE
IS EVEN
SHARPER AT
PICKING UP
SCENTS.

I GO DOWN
THE MOUNTAIN
REPEATEDLY,
DAY AFTER DAY.
I'VE BECOME
QUITE GOOD
AT AVOIDING
TRAPS.



IT'S
LIKE HE
REALLY
WANTS
TO KILL
ME.



BUT THE
TRAPS
ARE
GETTING
MUCH
DEADLIER.

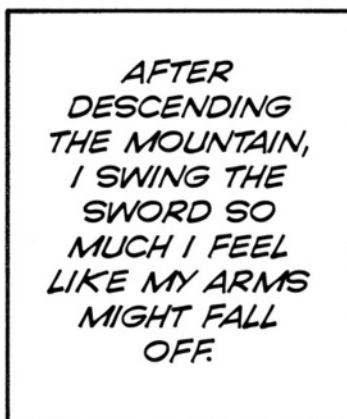


IT
REALLY
GETS
IN THE
WAY...

...SO
CARRYING
IT GOT ME
CAUGHT IN
A LOT OF
TRAPS.



TODAY,
I WENT
DOWN
THE
MOUNTAIN
WITH A
KATANA.



AFTER
DESCENDING
THE MOUNTAIN,
I SWING THE
SWORD SO
MUCH I FEEL
LIKE MY ARMS
MIGHT FALL
OFF.



SWSH

SWSH

I SAY
"TODAY," BUT
LATELY I DO
THIS EVERY
DAY.



TODAY, I
PRACTICED
SWING-
ING THE
SWORD.

WITH A
KATANA
...



IT'S STRONG
AGAINST
FORCE
LENGTHWISE
BUT WEAK
AGAINST
FORCE
FROM THE
SIDE.

THE FIRST
THING HE
TAUGHT ME
WAS THAT
A KATANA
BREAKS
EASILY.

WHEN
YOU
SWING A
KATANA...

...YOU
MUST
ATTACK
STRAIGHT
AHEAD.

...THE
DIRECTION
OF THE BLADE
AND THE
DIRECTION
OF THE
FORCE YOU
APPLY MUST
BE EXACTLY
THE SAME.



...HE'LL
BREAK
MY
BONES.
HIS
THREATS
ARE
COLD...

IN OTHER
WORDS, IF I
BREAK IT...

...
YOU!

FURTHER-
MORE...

...IF YOU
DAMAGE
THE SWORD,
HE'LL
DAMAGE...

...LIKE
THE
MOUNTAIN.







HE
EASILY
THROWS
ME TO THE
GROUND.

BUT HE'S
RIDICU-
LOUSLY
STRONG.



I'VE
BEEN
WRIT-
ING...

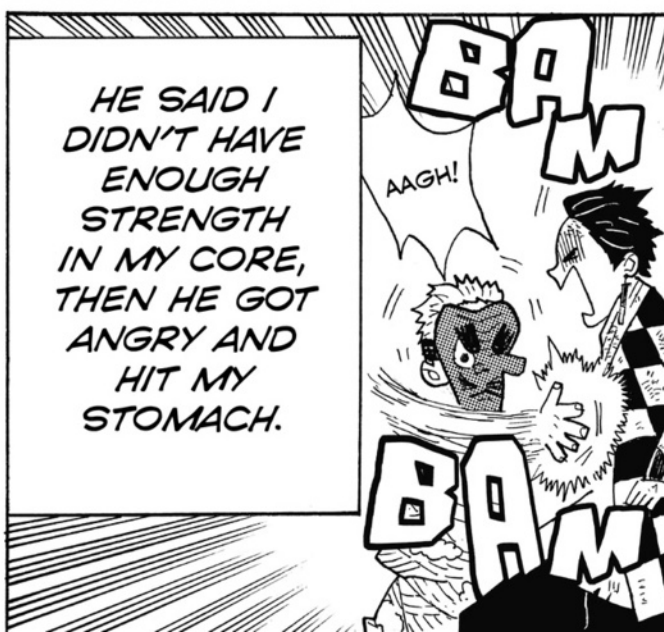
...FOR SIX
MONTHS,
NEZUKO,
AND YOU
STILL
HAVEN'T
WOKEN UP.



NO!
THIS?
THIS?
NO!

LIKE
THIS?

TODAY, I
LEARNED
BREATHING
AND SOME
STANDARD
FORMS.



HE SAID I
DIDN'T HAVE
ENOUGH
STRENGTH
IN MY CORE,
THEN HE GOT
ANGRY AND
HIT MY
STOMACH.

AAGH!

BAM
BAM



YET IT'S
CLEARLY
STRANGE
FOR YOU
TO KEEP
SLEEPING
LIKE THIS.



UROKODAKI
IMMEDIATELY
CALLED A
DOCTOR TO
LOOK
AT YOU...

...BUT
HE
FOUND
NOTHING
WRONG.



AND
...

...THAT'S
STILL
HOW I
FEEL
EVERY
NIGHT.

I THOUGHT
I'D WAKE
UP IN THE
MORNING
TO FIND
YOU DEAD.

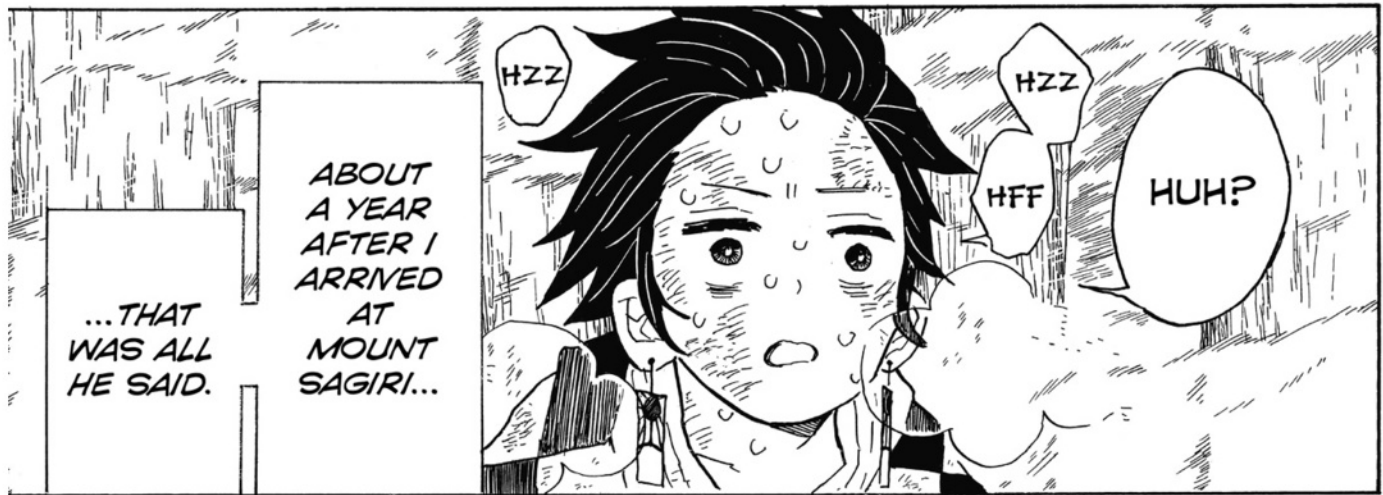


I WAS
SCARED.



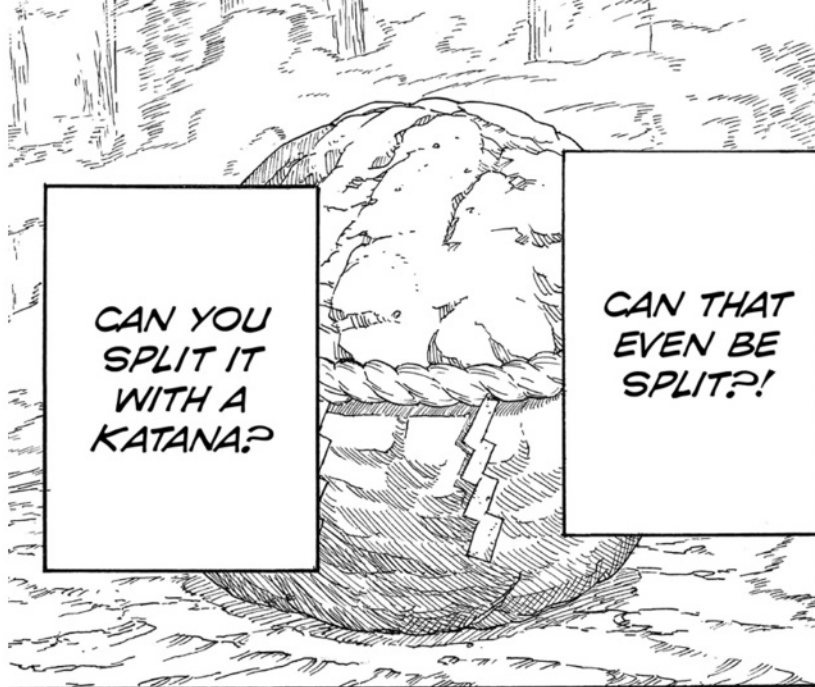
MANY
TIMES I'VE
THOUGHT
THAT I
WOULD DIE.

AND EVERY DAY
I GO HIGHER ON
THE MOUNTAIN
FOR MY TRAINING,
EACH PLACE MORE
DANGEROUS AND
WITH THINNER AIR.





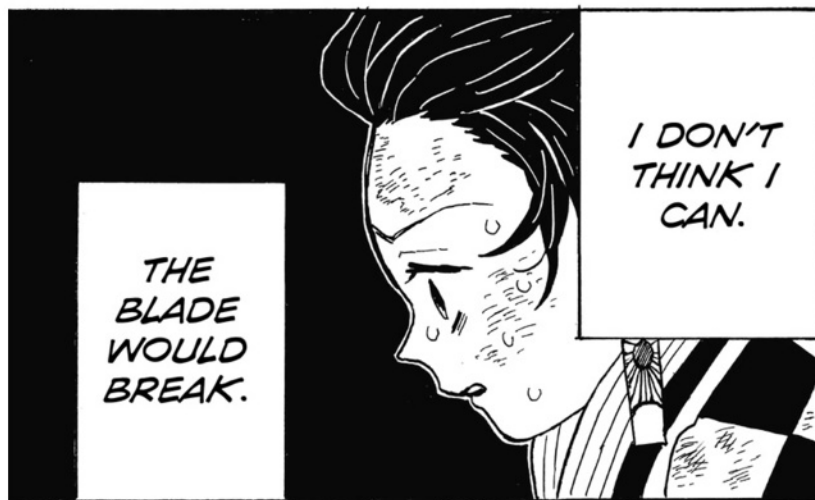
IF YOU CAN
SPLIT THIS
BOULDER,
I WILL
APPROVE YOU
FOR FINAL
SELECTION.



CAN YOU
SPLIT IT
WITH A
KATANA.?

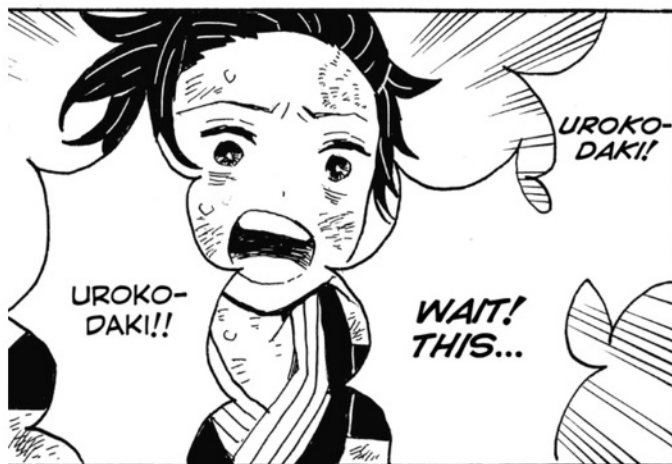
CAN THAT
EVEN BE
SPLIT?!

A
BOULDER
...?



THE
BLADE
WOULD
BREAK.

I DON'T
THINK I
CAN.



UROKO-
DAKI!!

UROKO-
DAKI!!

WAIT!
THIS...



...HASN'T
TAUGHT ME
ANYTHING.

SINCE
THAT
DAY...

...
UROKO-
DAKI
...



HOLDING
MY BREATH,
FLEXIBILITY,
AND THE MOST
BASIC THINGS
TOO.

STILL...

I'M GLAD
I WROTE
EVERYTHING
DOWN IN MY
JOURNAL.

...EVERY
DAY I
PRACTICE
WHAT I
LEARNED
FROM
UROKO-
DAKI.



I'M
BEGIN-
NING TO
WORRY.

BUT EVEN
AFTER HALF A
YEAR I STILL
CAN'T SPLIT
THE
BOULDER.



I HAVE
TO DO
MORE.

MORE!

I HAVEN'T
HAD ENOUGH
TRAINING.

IT ISN'T
ENOUGH.



COME ON! TRY HARDER!

I HAVE NO ANSWERS!

**I'M LOSING HOPE!
I'M GOING TO FAIL!**

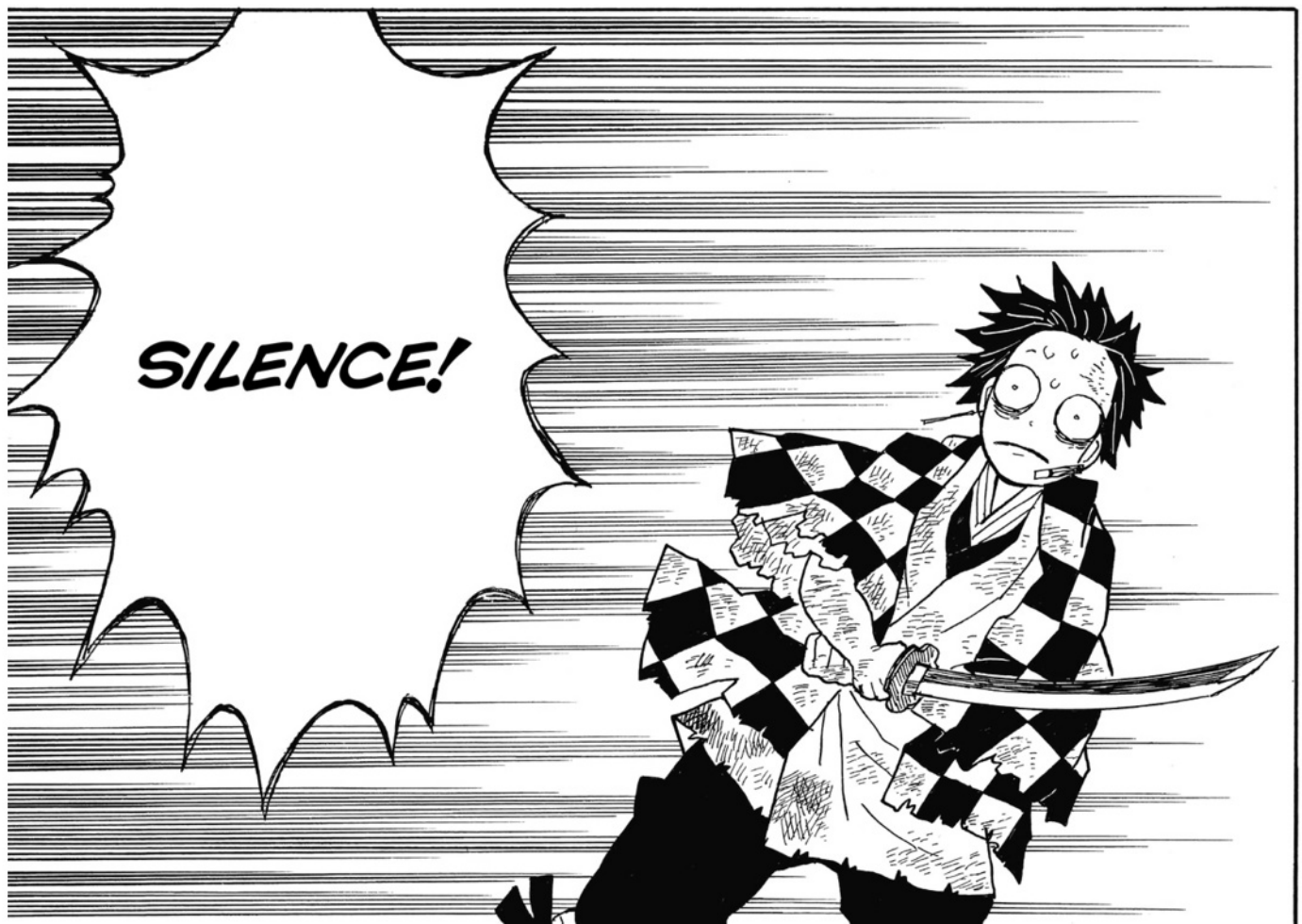


WHAT IF...

...I'M NO GOOD?

WILL NE-ZUKO ...

...DIE LIKE THAT?



SILENCE!



A MAN
SHOULDN'T
WHINE... IT'S
UNSEEMLY.



I CAN'T
SMELL
HIM!

A FOX
MASK....?

WHERE
DID HE
COME
FROM?!

?!



FW
SH



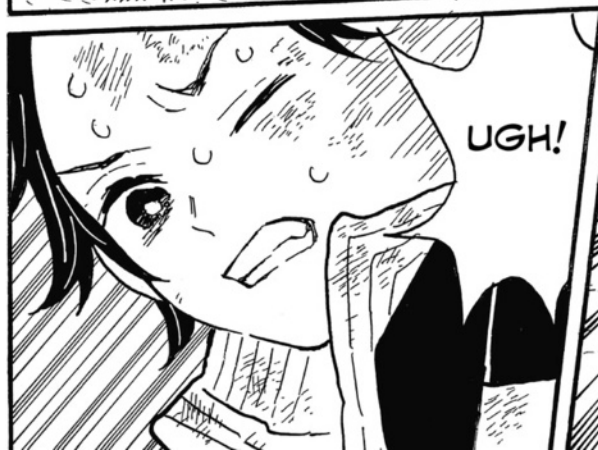
!!



WHATEVER
THE
SUFFERING,
BEAR IT IN
SILENCE.

IF
YOU'RE
A MAN.

OR ARE
YOU STILL
A LITTLE
BOY?



...AND
IMMATURE.

YOU'RE
SLOW...

YOU'LL
NEVER BE
A DEMON
SLAYER.

...AND
WEAK...

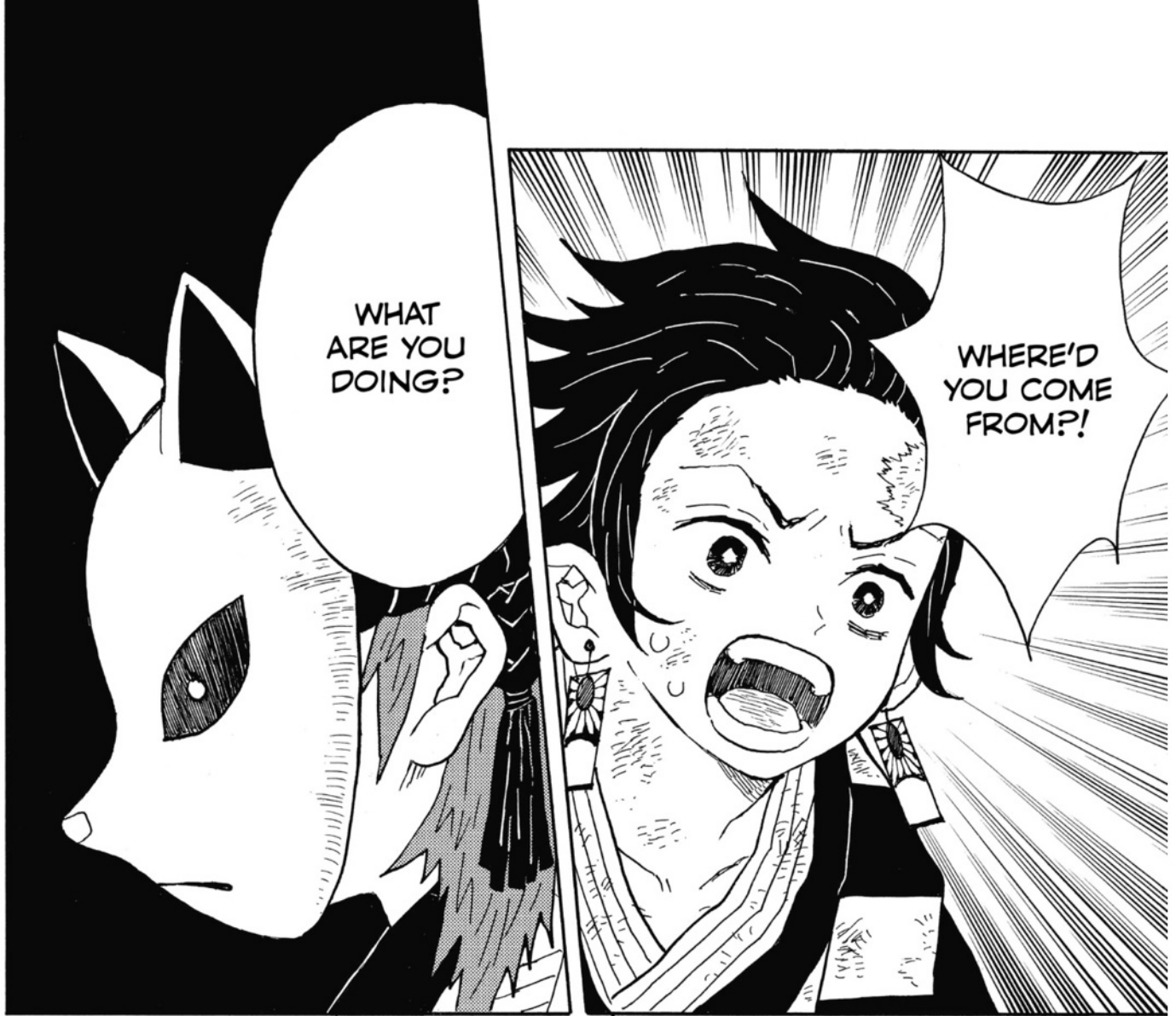


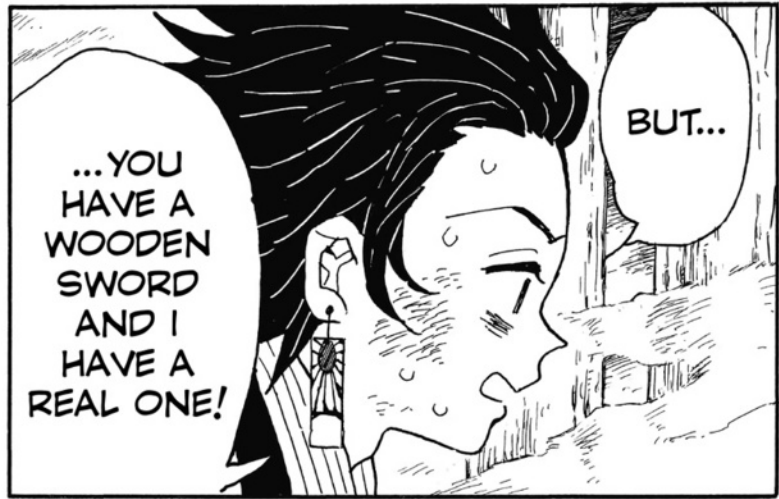
ADVERTISING ILLUSTRATION AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SERIES.

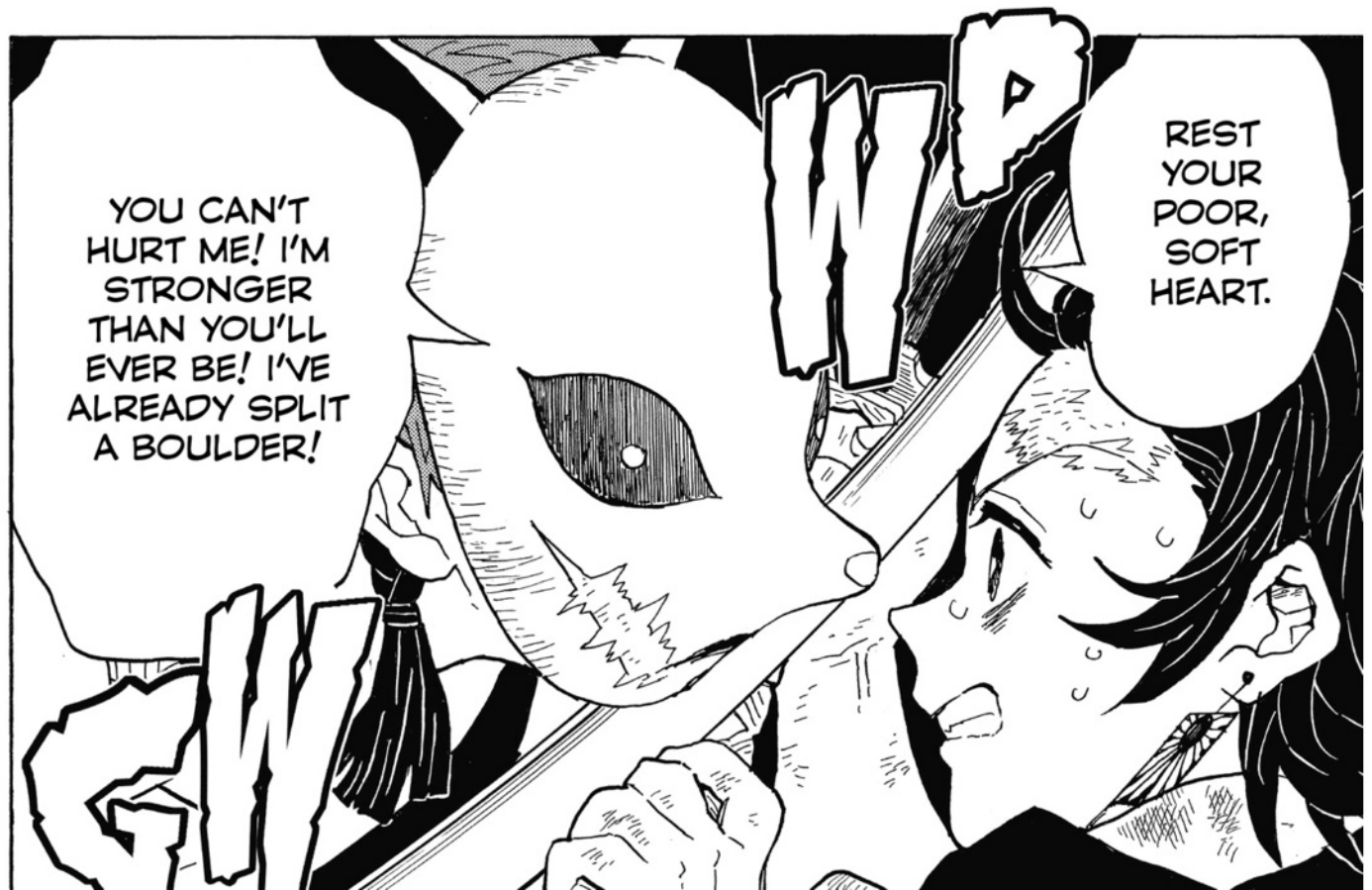




CHAPTER 5: TANJIRO'S JOURNAL, PART 2









YOU'VE
GAINED
NOTHING. YOU
HAVEN'T
MASTERED
ANYTHING!

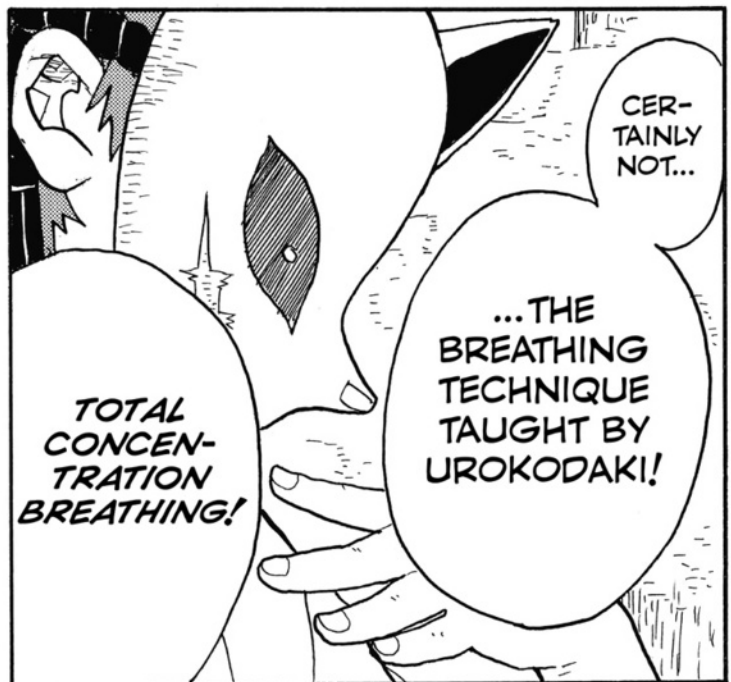


YOU
SPLIT A
BOULDER
?!



YOU JUST
MEMORIZED
IT AS A
FACT...

BUT YOUR
BODY
DOESN'T
UNDER-
STAND
ANYTHING!



CER-
TAINLY
NOT...

TOTAL
CONCEN-
TRATION
BREATHING!

...THE
BREATHING
TECHNIQUE
TAUGHT BY
UROKODAKI!



HE KNOWS
UROKODAKI?!
AND ABOUT THE
BREATHING...

!!





...IS TO LIE
DOWN AND
DIE! SO **MAKE**
YOURSELF
PROGRESS!



DON'T
"TRY"...
JUST **DO**
IT!



IF
YOU'RE
A MAN!



THE ONLY
OTHER
CHOICE...



SHOW
ME...



...YOUR
STRENGTH!



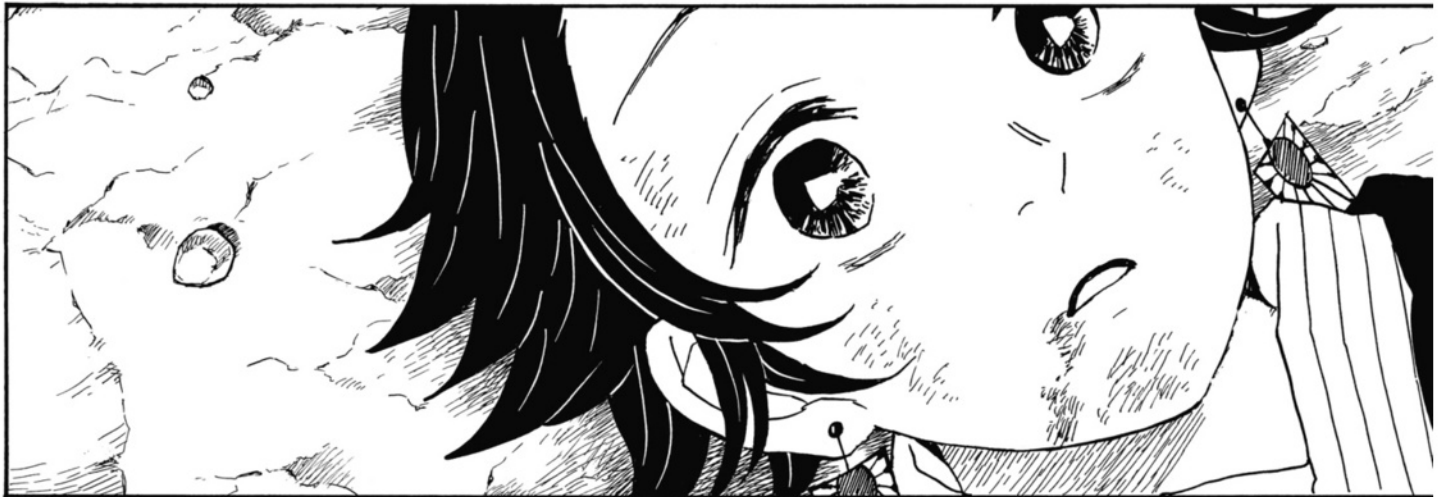
ATTACK!
WHAT
HAVE YOU
GOT?

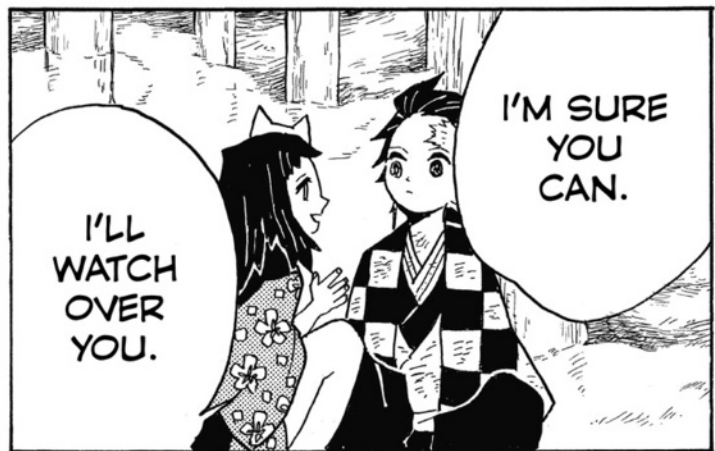
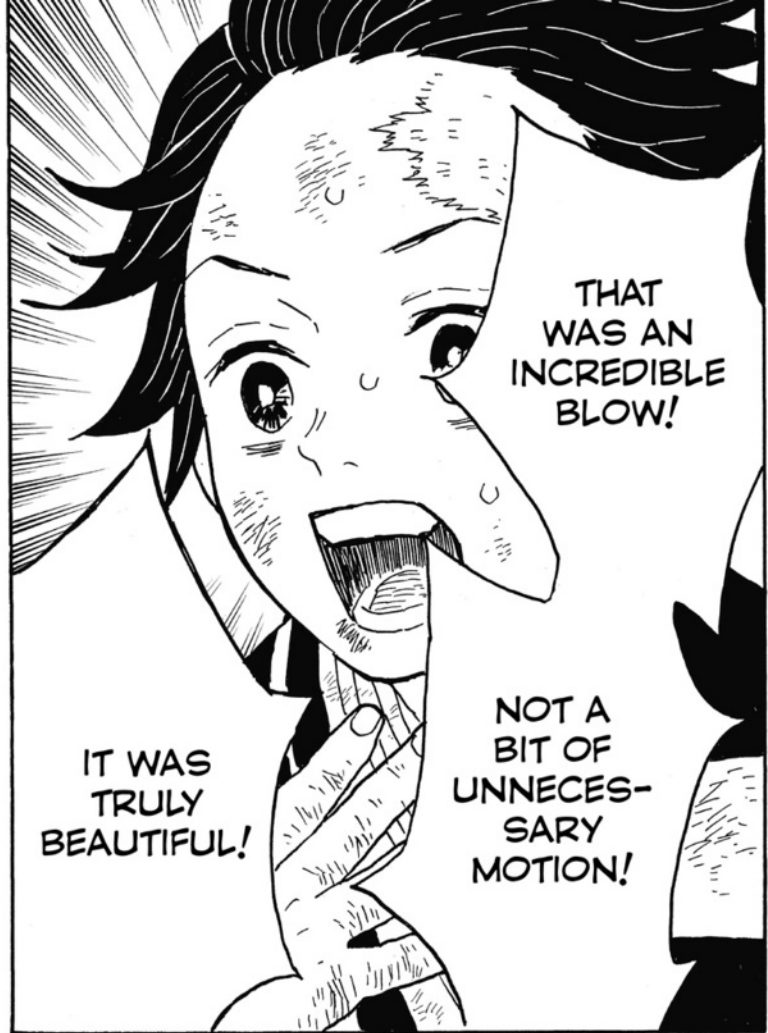


AAAAAGH!!





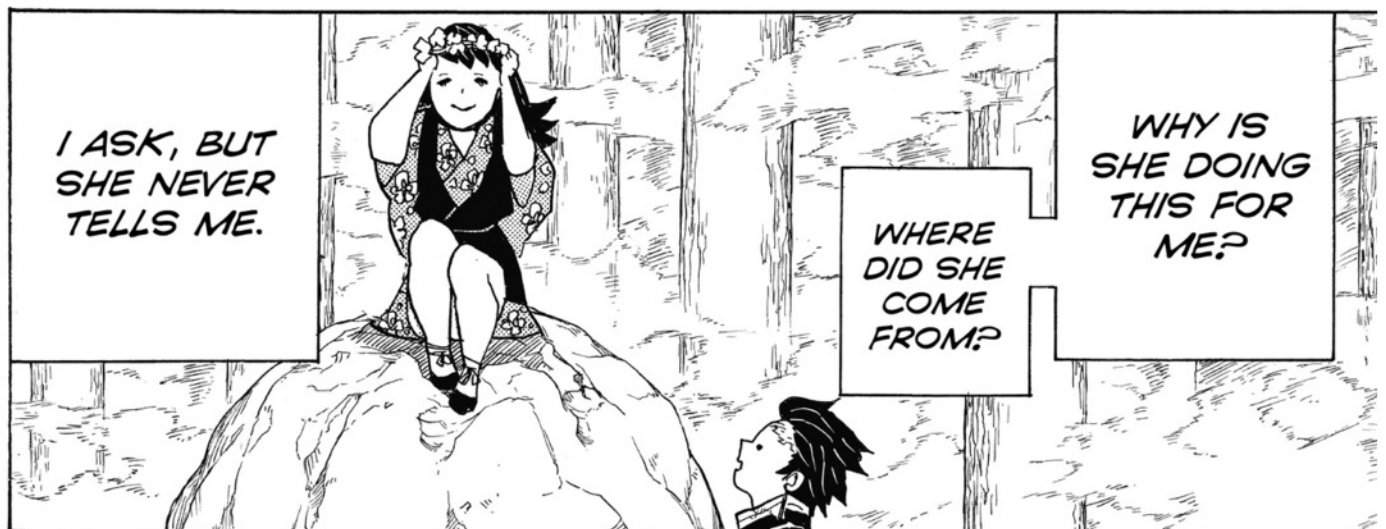






SHE
CORRECTS MY
UNNECESSARY
MOVEMENTS
AND BAD
HABITS.

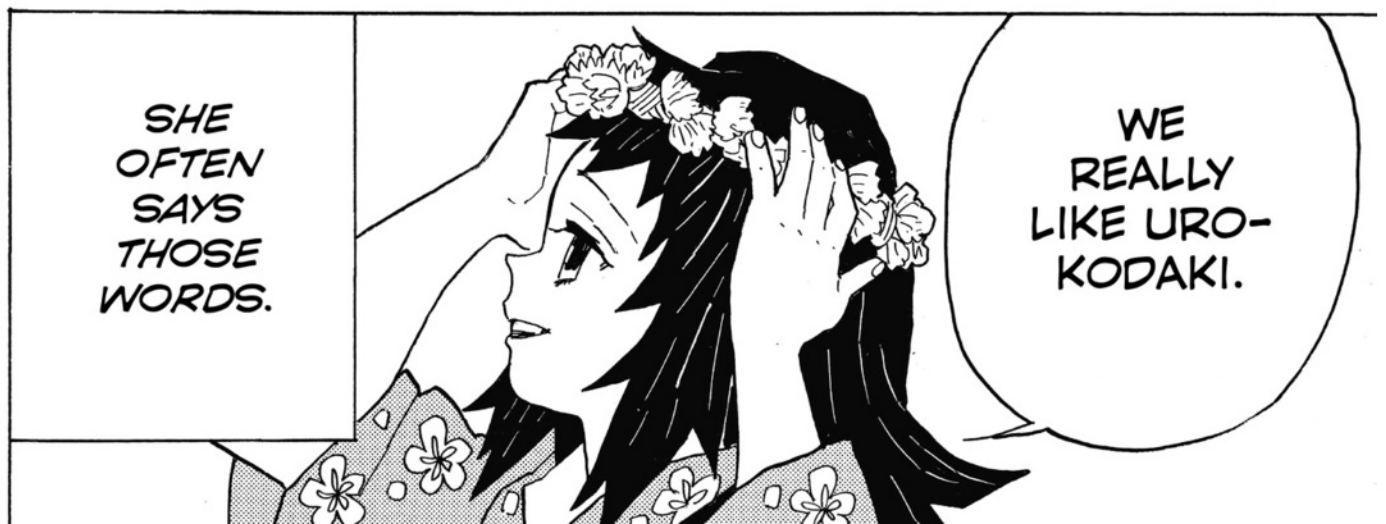
MAKOMO
POINTS OUT
THE DEFECTS
IN MY STYLE.



I ASK, BUT
SHE NEVER
TELLS ME.

WHERE
DID SHE
COME
FROM?

WHY IS
SHE DOING
THIS FOR
ME?



SHE
OFTEN
SAYS
THOSE
WORDS.

WE
REALLY
LIKE URO-
KODAKI.



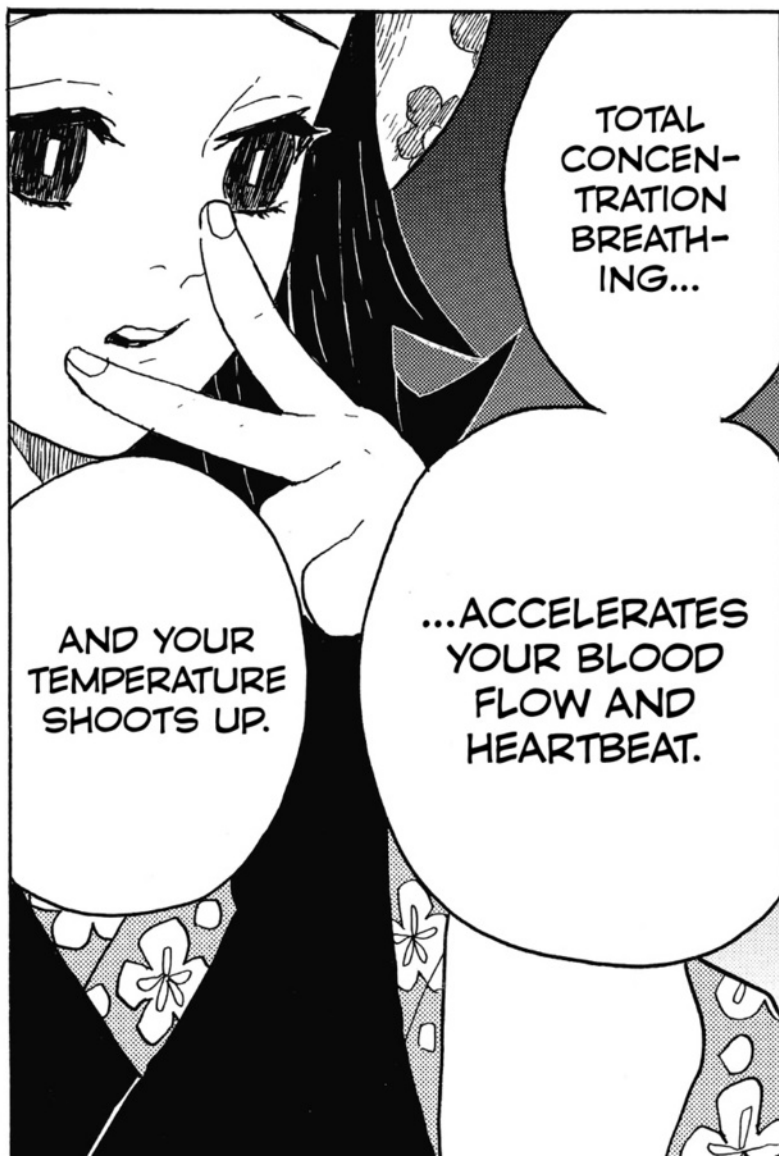
THERE
ARE OTHER
CHILDREN
TOO.

THEY'RE
ALL
AROUND,
WATCHING
YOU.



THEY
AREN'T
SIBLINGS.
THEY WERE
BOTH
ORPHANS.

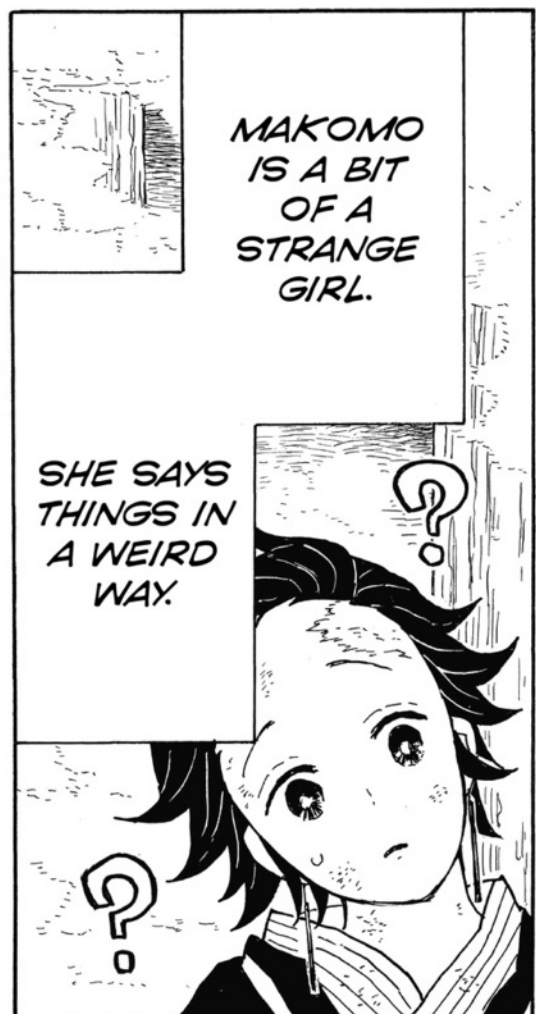
UROKO-
DAKI TOOK
THEM IN
AND RAISED
THEM.



TOTAL
CONCEN-
TRATION
BREATH-
ING...

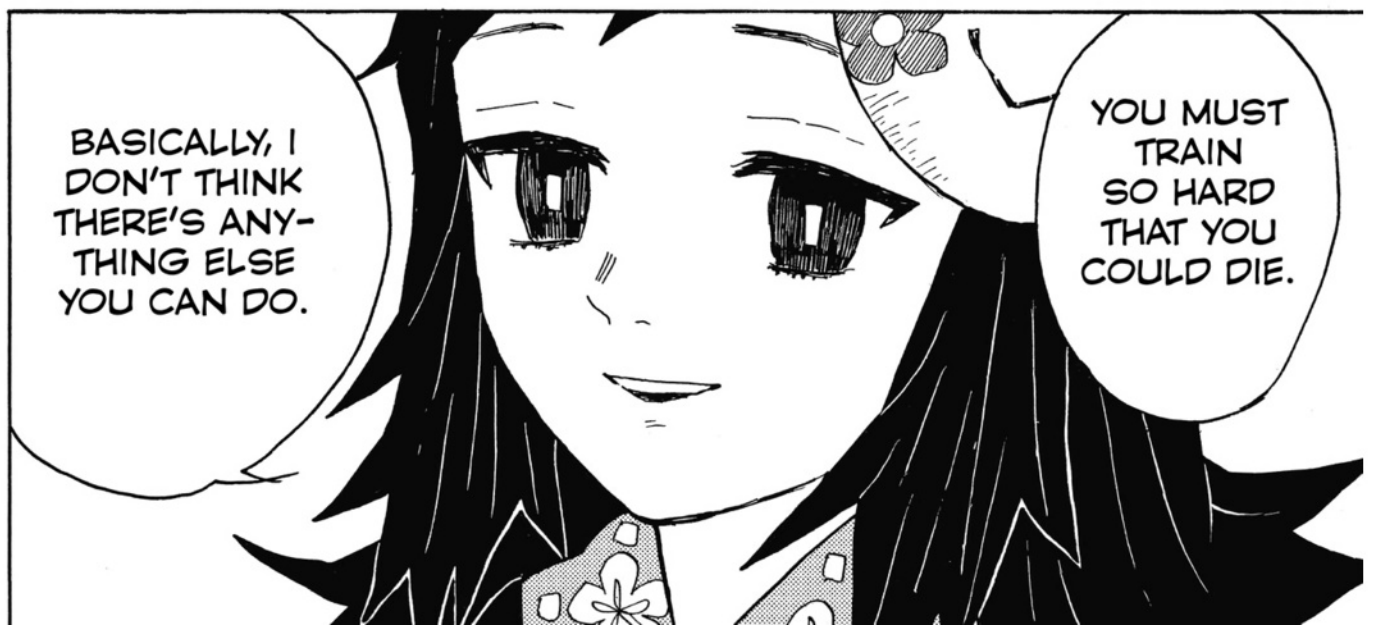
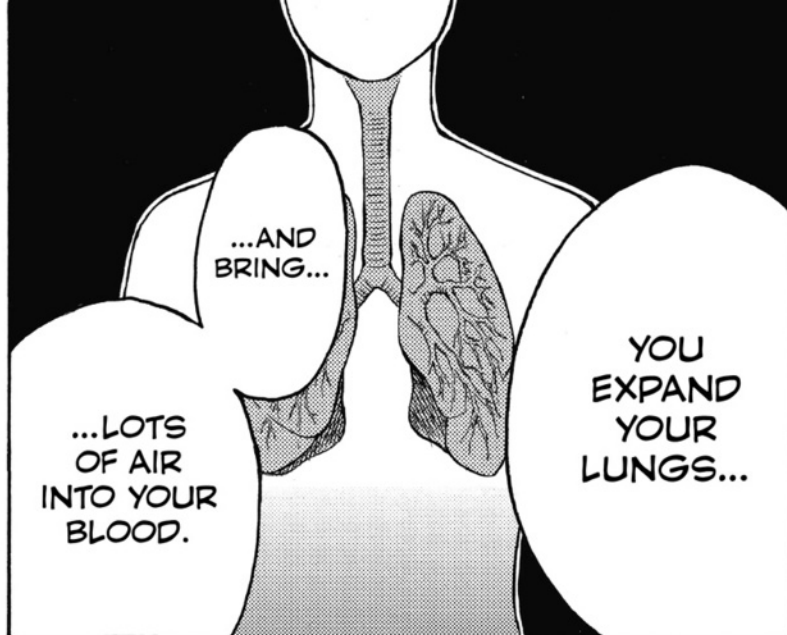
AND YOUR
TEMPERATURE
SHOOTS UP.

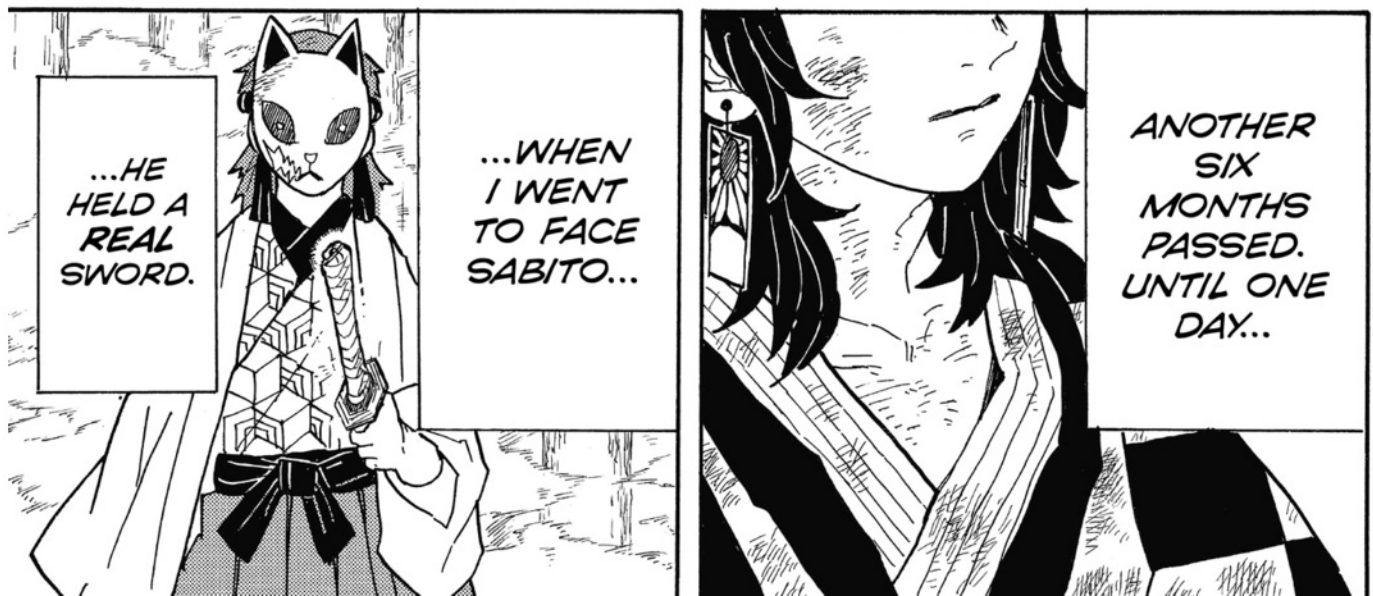
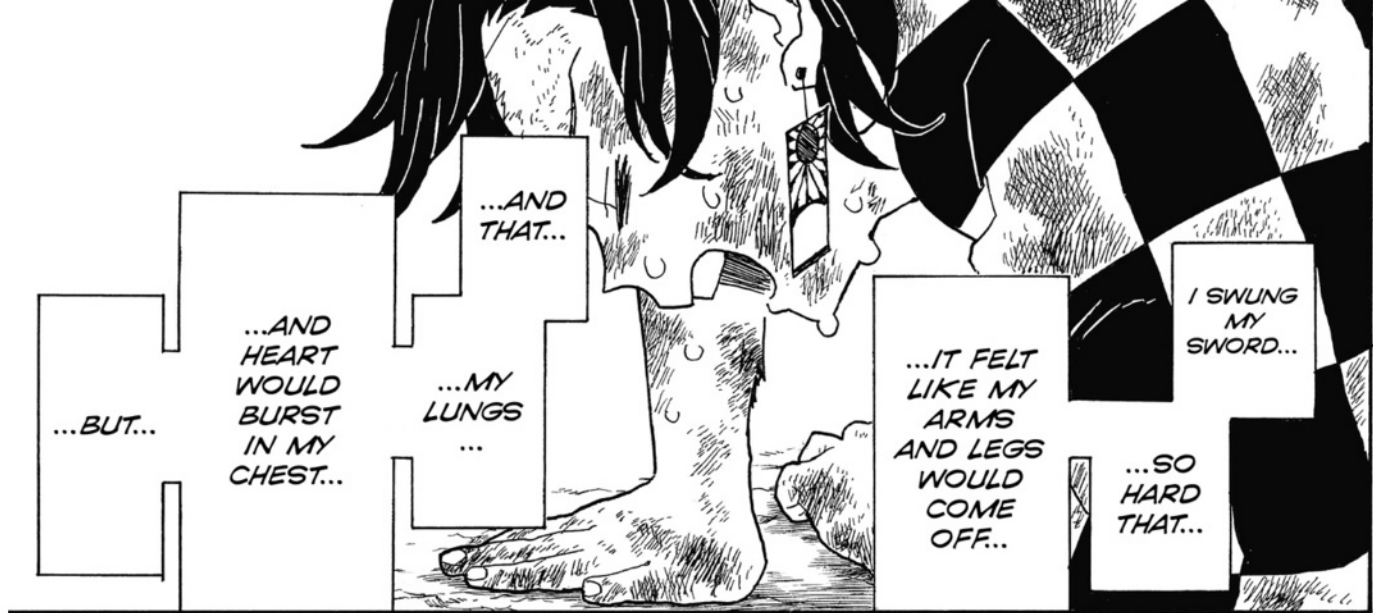
...ACCELERATES
YOUR BLOOD
FLOW AND
HEARTBEAT.



MAKOMO
IS A BIT
OF A
STRANGE
GIRL.

SHE SAYS
THINGS IN
A WEIRD
WAY.







TODAY,
I WILL
WIN.

THE
CONTEST
WAS
SIMPLE.

THE
STRONGER,
FASTER
BLADE
WINS.



AFTER
HALF A
YEAR...

...YOU'VE
FINALLY
GOT THE
FACE OF
A MAN.

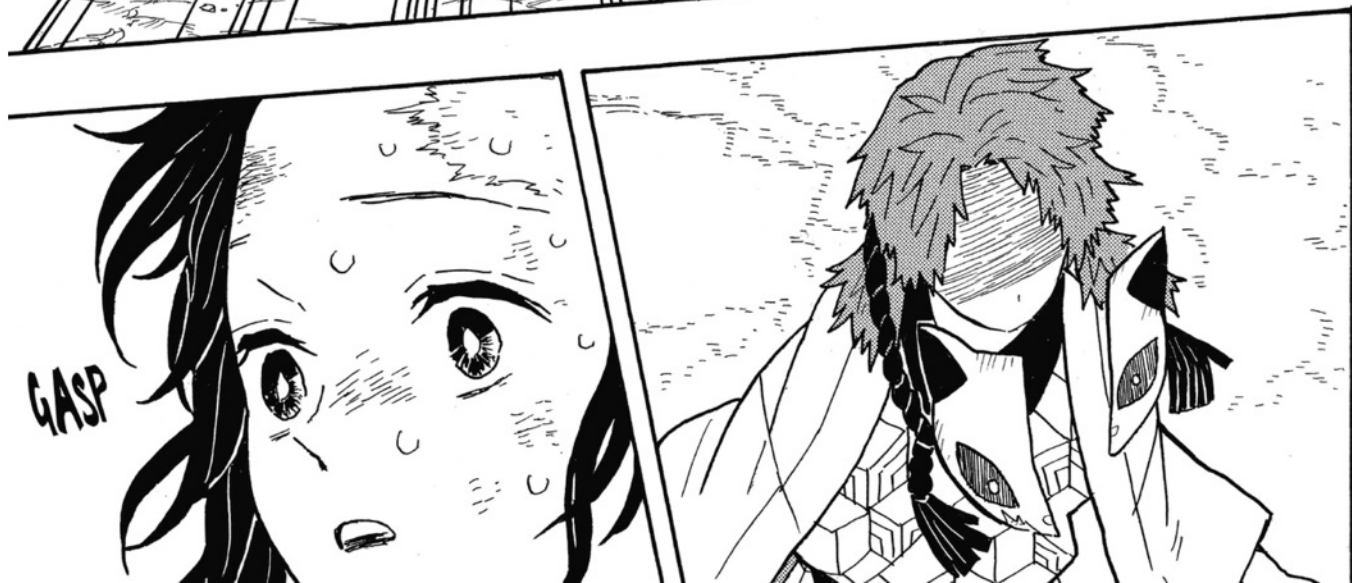


THE FIGHT
WAS OVER
IN AN
INSTANT.

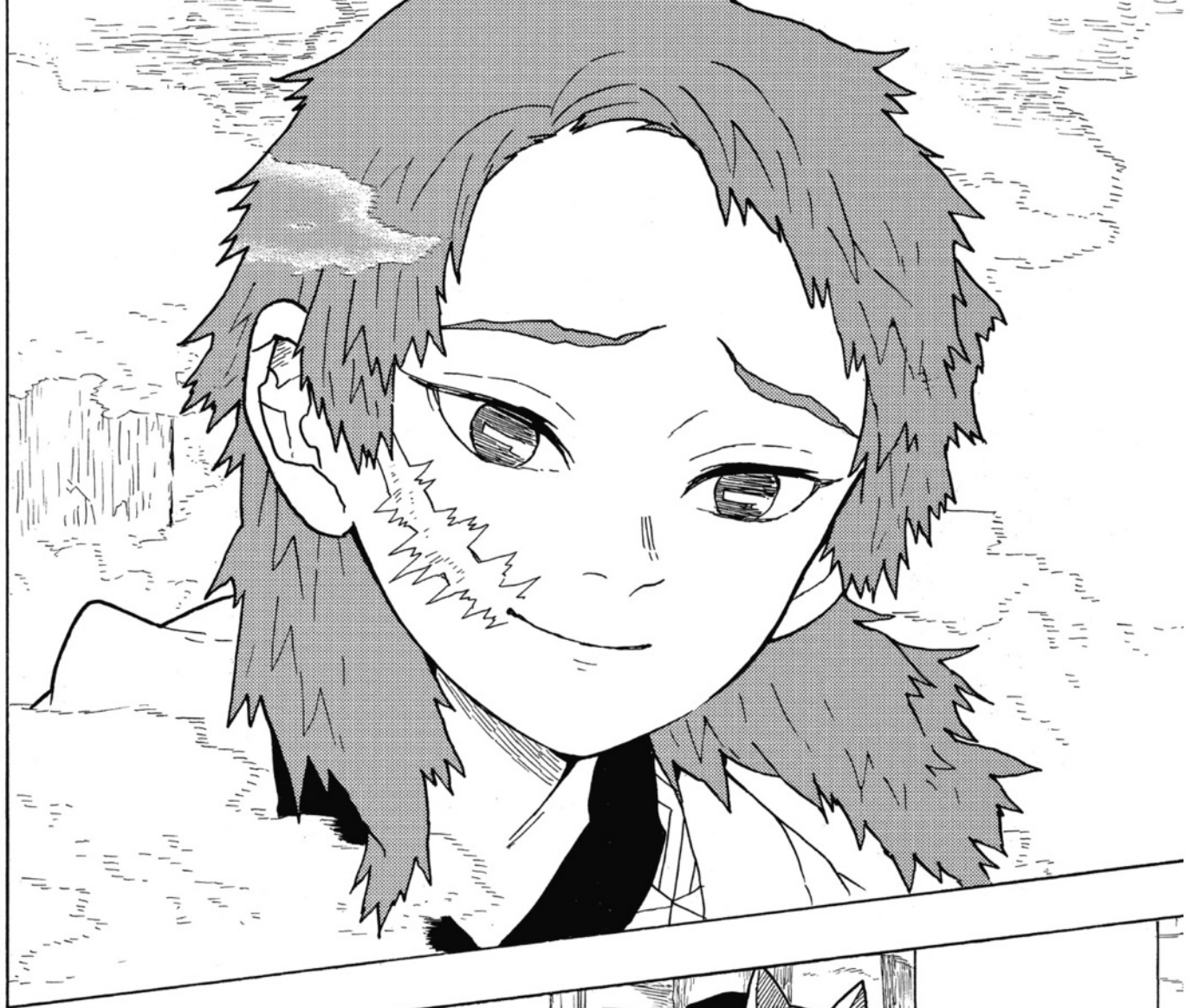


THAT DAY,
IN THAT
MOMENT,
FOR THE
FIRST
TIME...

...MY
BLADE
REACHED
SABITO
FIRST.



GASP



...OR
MAYBE
PROUD
AND
REASSUR-
ING.

IT
SEEMED
LIKE
A SAD
SMILE TO
ME...

WHEN
I WON,
SABITO
SMILED.



SUDDENLY,
SABITO
DISAP-
PEARED...



...
AGAINST
THEM
TOO.

WIN,
TANJIRO...

FWSH

...AND I
FOUND THAT
MY SWORD
HAD NOT CUT
SABITO'S
MASK.



IT HAD
SPLIT THE
BOULDER.

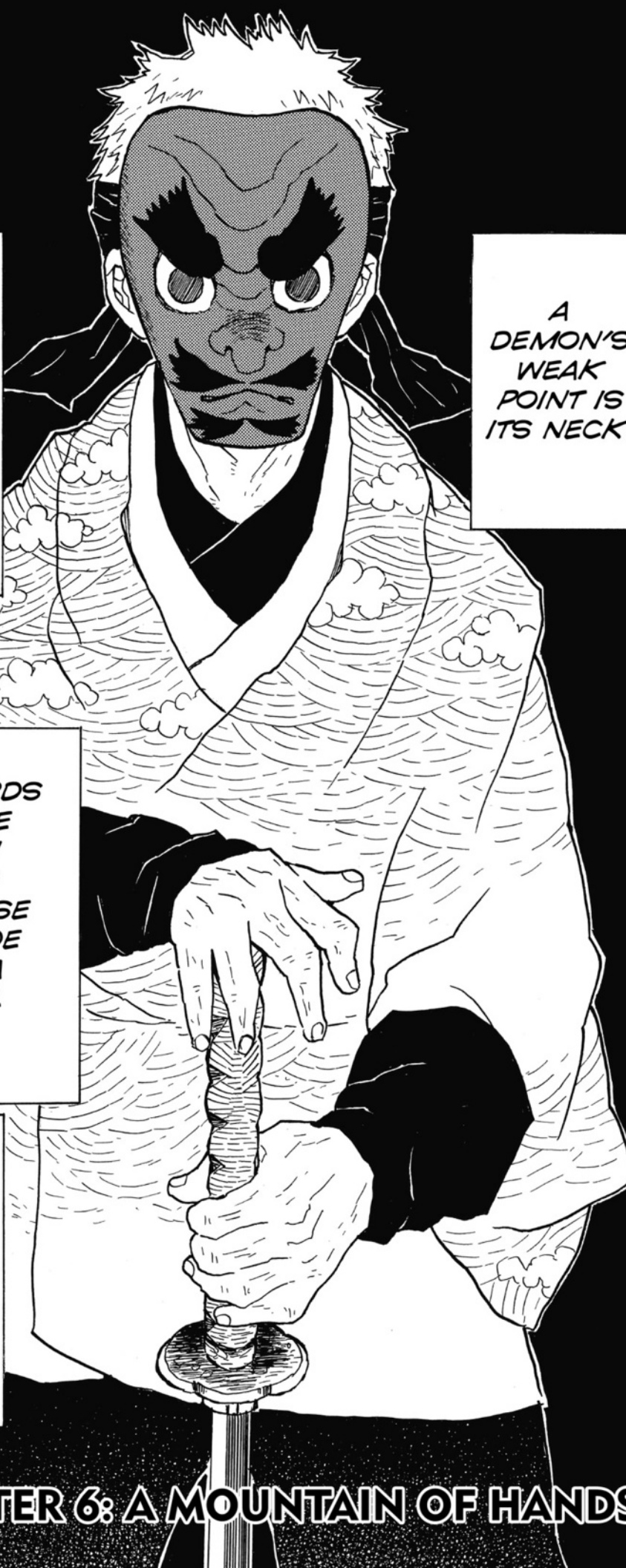


WORDS OF GRATITUDE

Thank you to everyone who read this work and to everyone who bought it. Thanks to your support, the series will continue. I can't tell you how thankful I am. Unlike water and food, manga isn't absolutely necessary for survival. Getting you to buy it is a tough job. Thank you very much. I create this manga with the help of many people. I'll work even harder to keep it interesting for you, so please keep reading. And again... thank you!!

I've gotten all your letters. Thank you. They make me so happy, but I can't reply, and that makes me very sorry. Forgive me, please. I'll keep doing my best!





HOWEVER,
WHEN USING
A NORMAL
BLADE, EVEN
CUTTING ITS
NECK WON'T
KILL IT.

A
DEMON'S
WEAK
POINT IS
ITS NECK.

THE SWORDS
THAT THE
DEMON
SLAYER
CORPS USE
ARE MADE
FROM A
SPECIAL
STEEL.

WE CALL
THEM
NICHIRIN
SWORDS.

CHAPTER 6: A MOUNTAIN OF HANDS

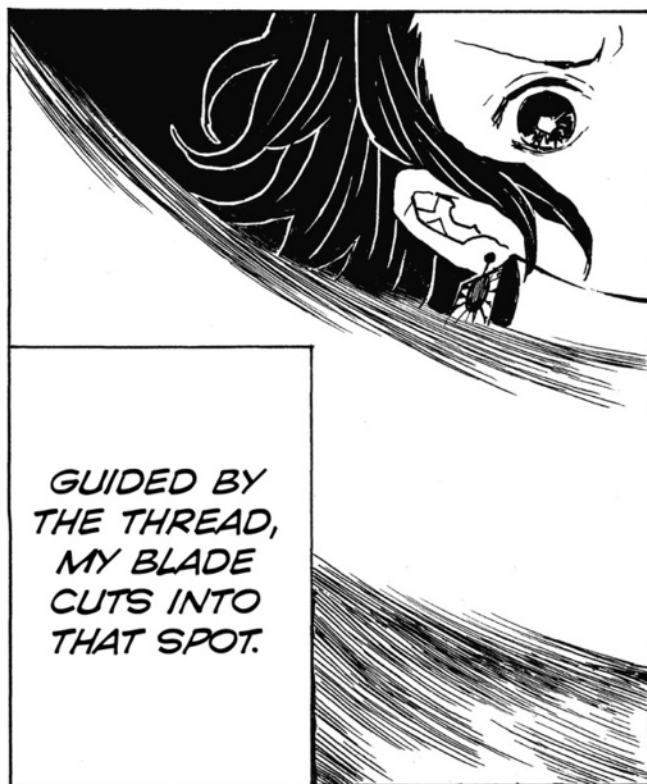


WHEN I'M
FIGHTING
SOME-
ONE...

...AND I
FIND THAT
SCENT, I
SEE THE
THREAD.

THANKS
TO MY
TRAINING
WITH
MAKOMO
...

...I'VE
LEARNED
TO SMELL
OUT AN
"OPENING
THREAD."
THAT'S HOW
I WON.

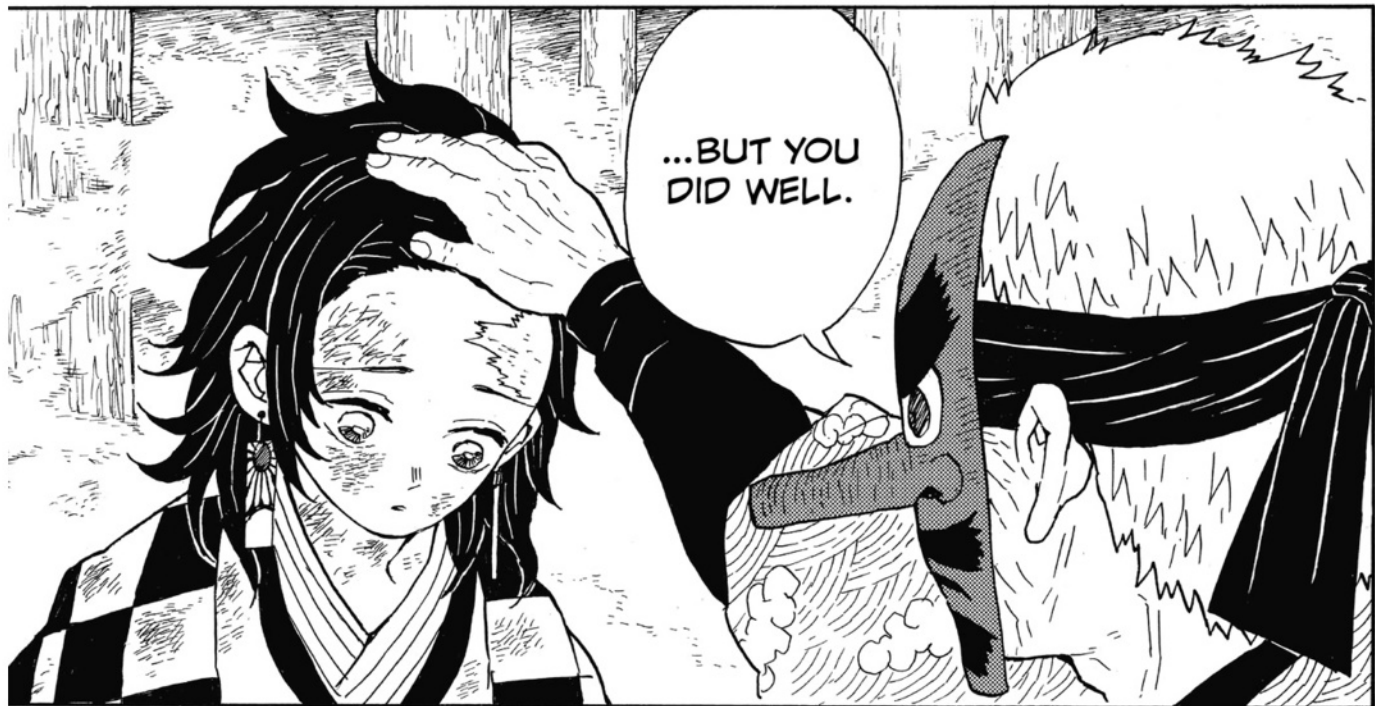


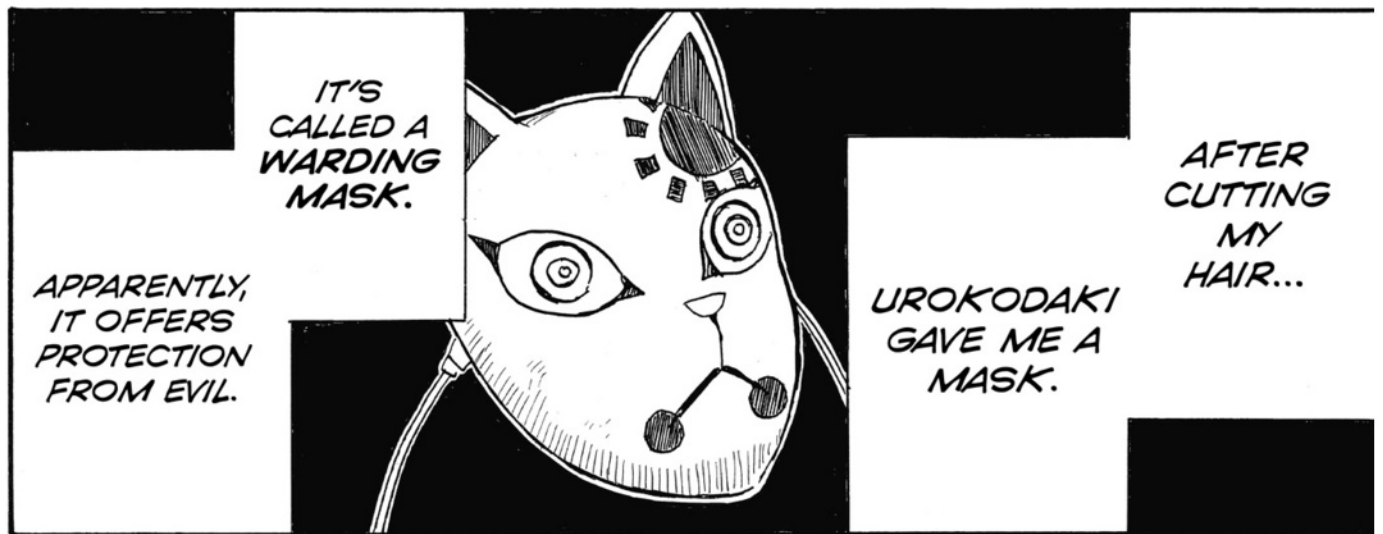
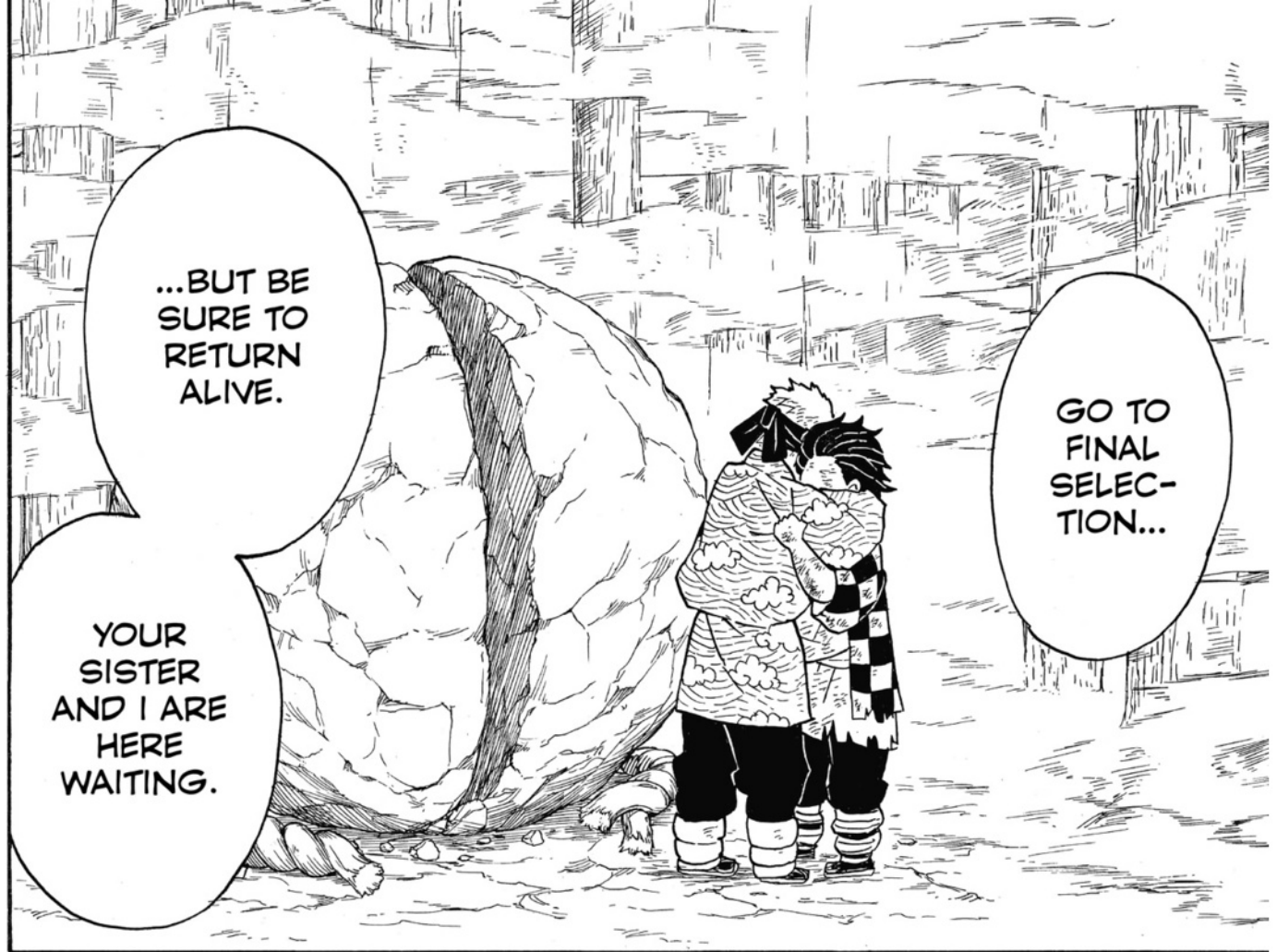
GUIDED BY
THE THREAD,
MY BLADE
CUTS INTO
THAT SPOT.

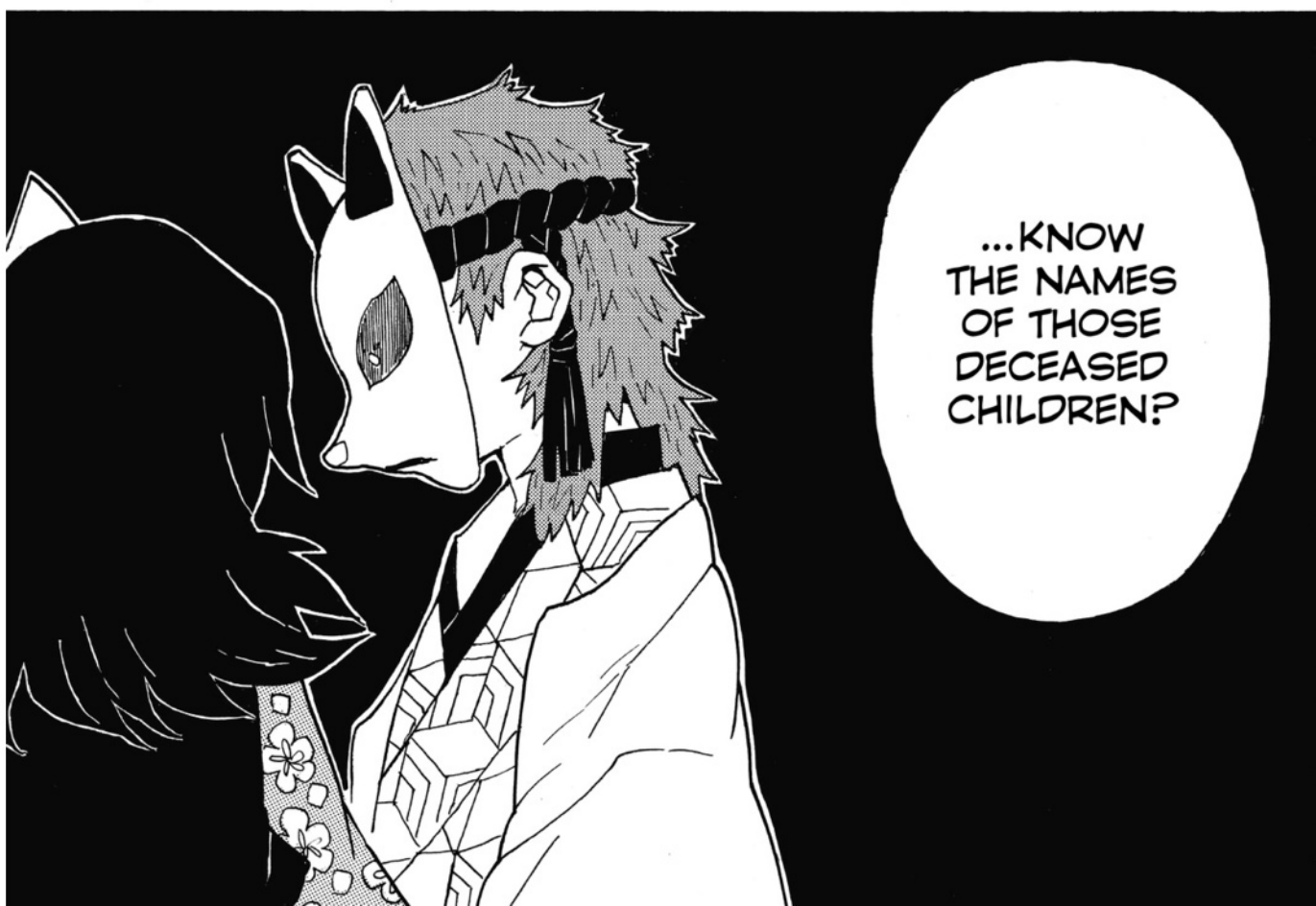
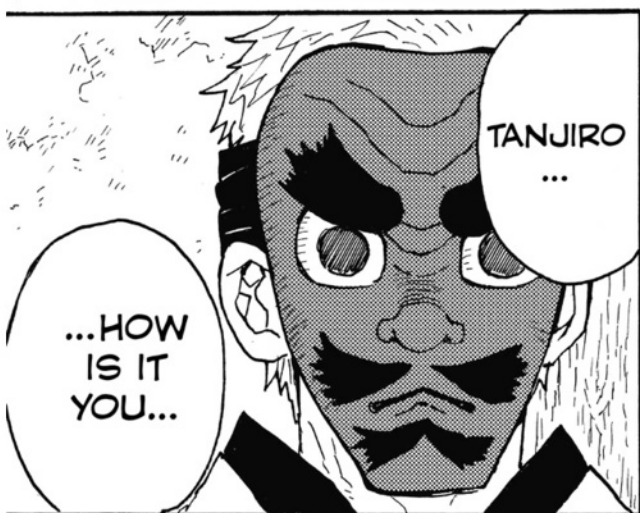


IT RUNS
FROM
MY
BLADE...

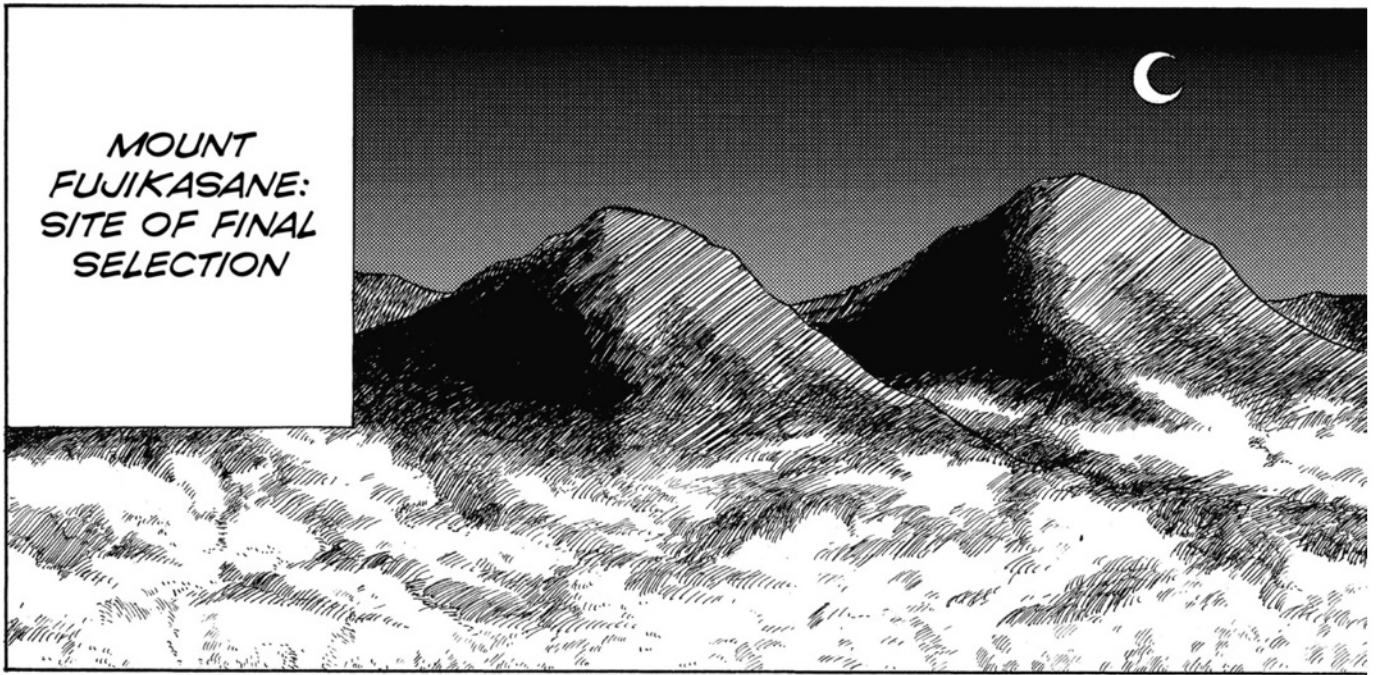
...TO A
SPOT
ON MY
OPPONENT,
AND IT
GOES TAUT
THE
MOMENT I
SEE IT.







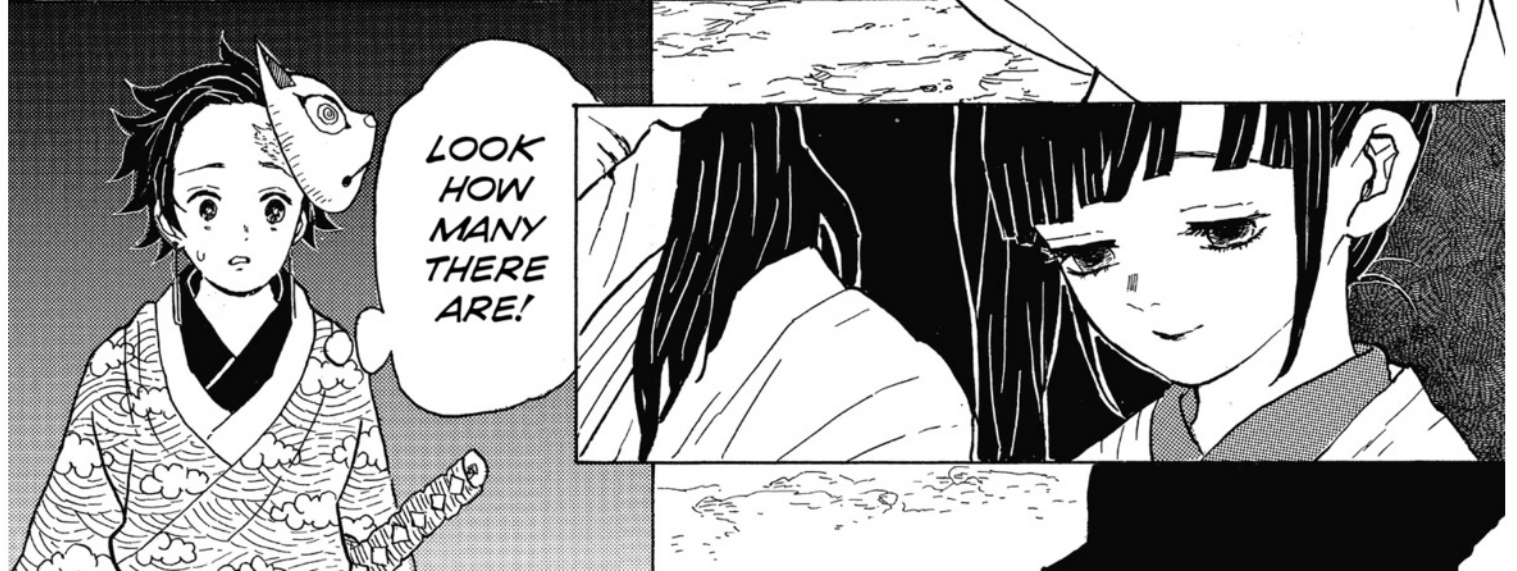
MOUNT
FUJIKASANE:
SITE OF FINAL
SELECTION

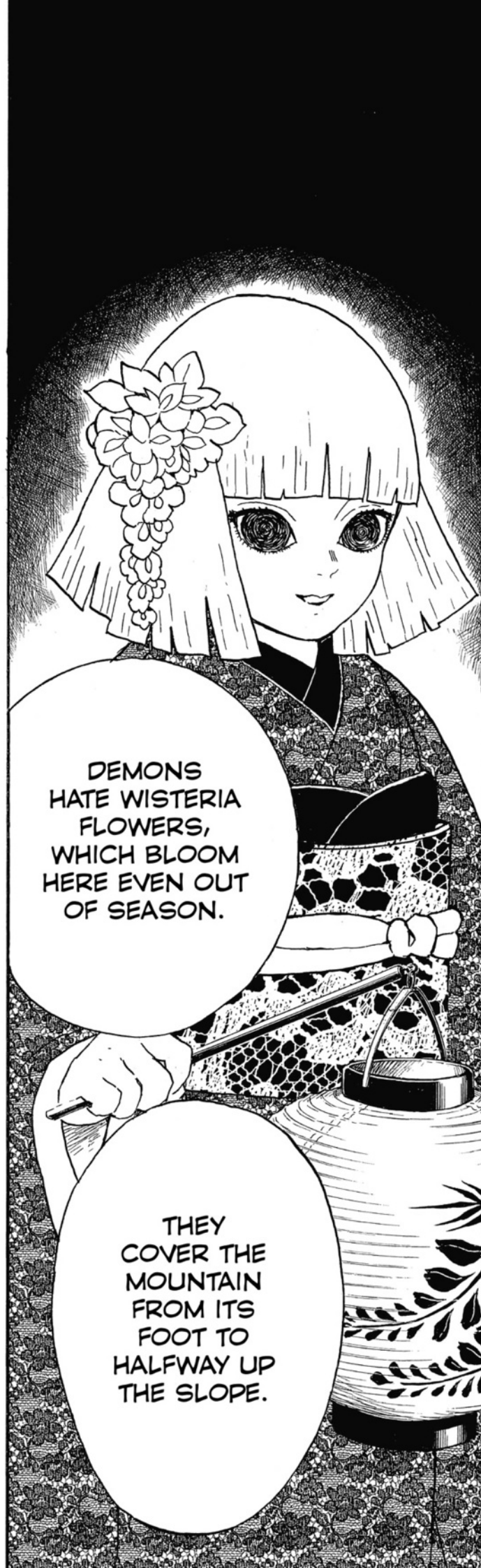


WOW!

BUT
WISTERIA
...

...
SHOULDN'T
BE
BLOOMING
THIS TIME
OF YEAR.





DEMONS
HATE WISTERIA
FLOWERS,
WHICH BLOOM
HERE EVEN OUT
OF SEASON.

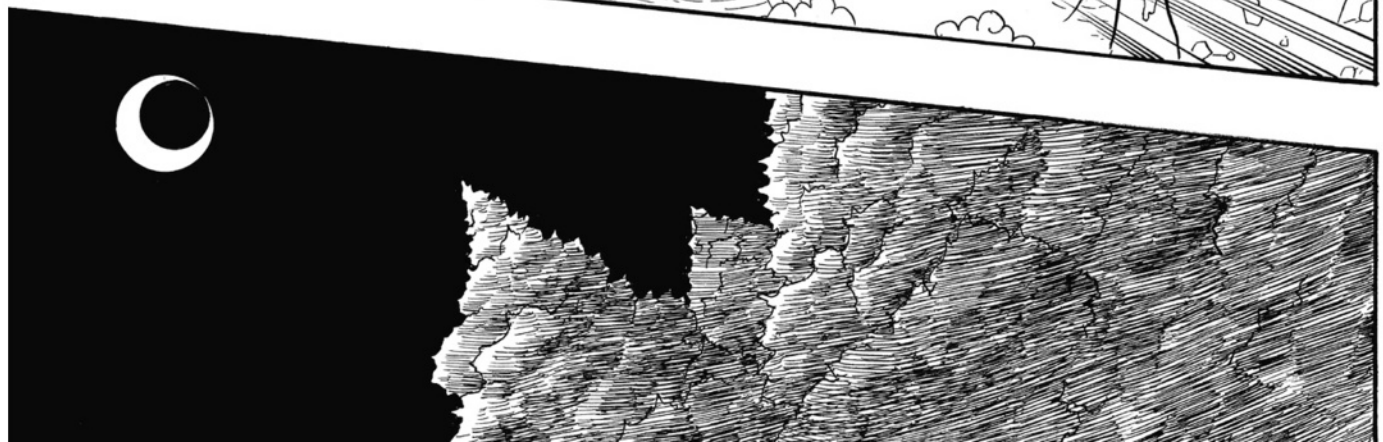
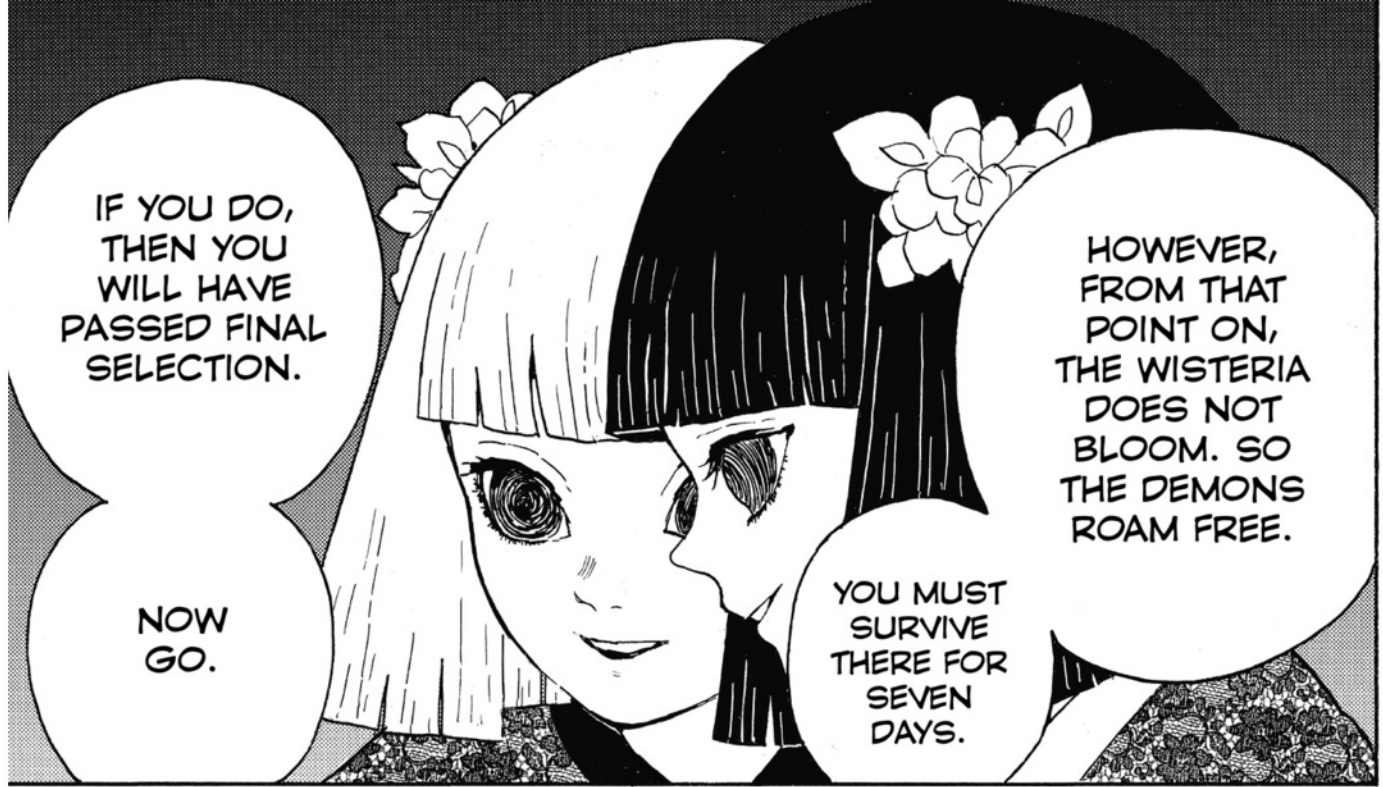
THEY
COVER THE
MOUNTAIN
FROM ITS
FOOT TO
HALFWAY UP
THE SLOPE.

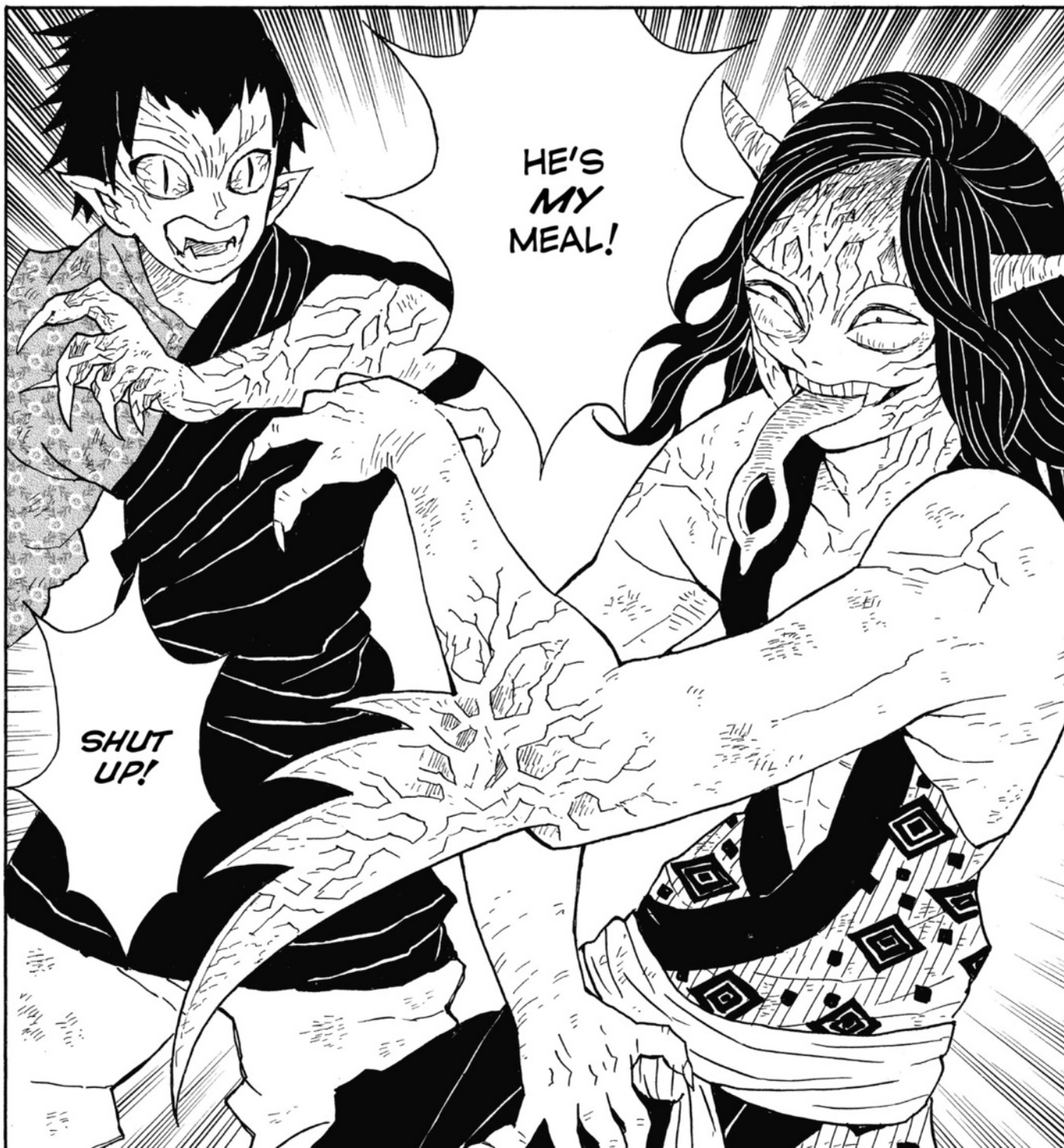


GREET-
INGS,
EVERY-
ONE.

THANK
YOU FOR
GATHERING
TONIGHT
FOR FINAL
SELECTION.

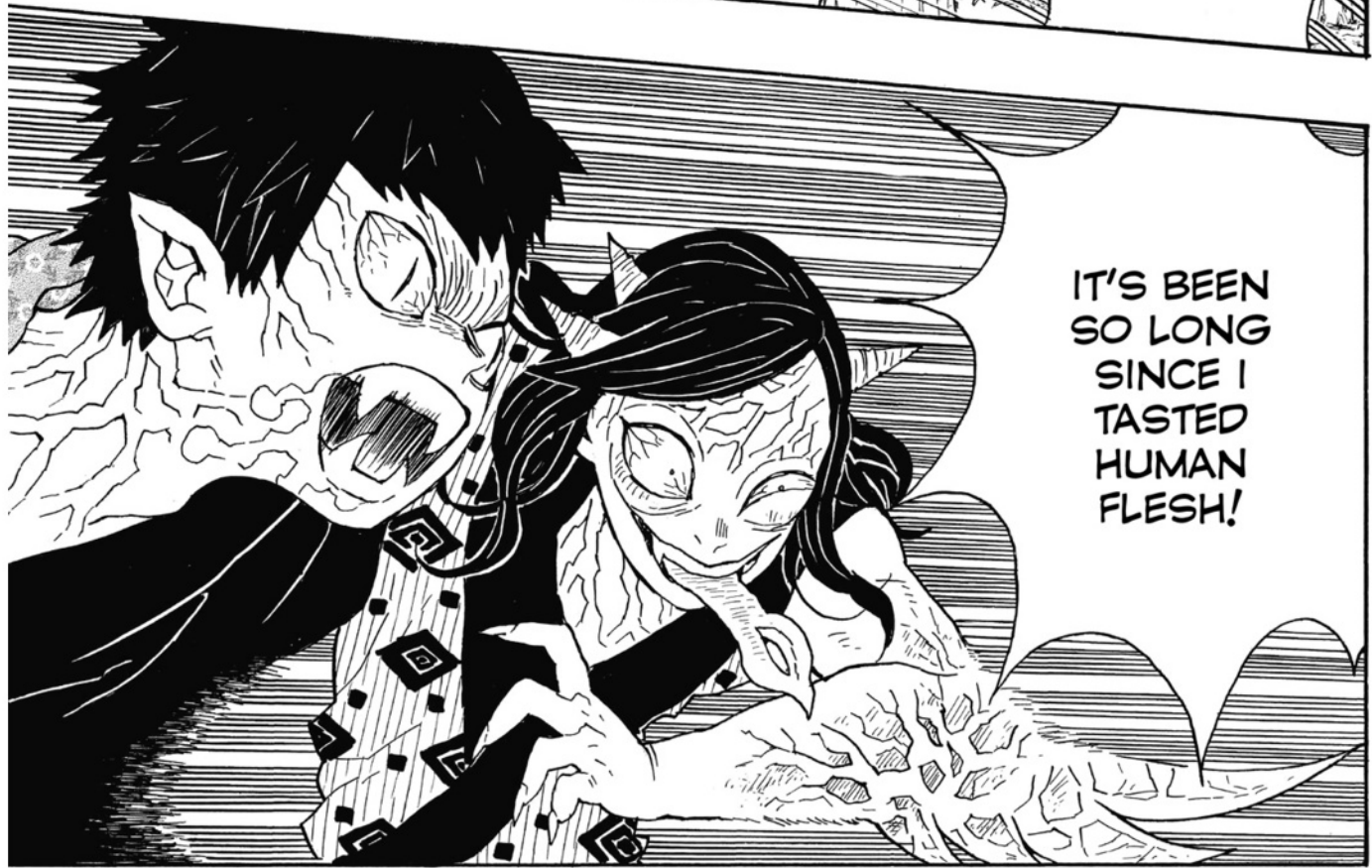
MOUNT
FUJIKASANE
HOLDS
DEMONS THAT
DEMON-SLAYER
SWORDSMEN
HAVE TAKEN ALIVE
AND TRAPPED
HERE.







THE ONE
WHO KILLS
HIM FIRST
GETS TO
EAT HIM!



IT'S BEEN
SO LONG
SINCE I
TASTED
HUMAN
FLESH!



WATER
BREATHING!

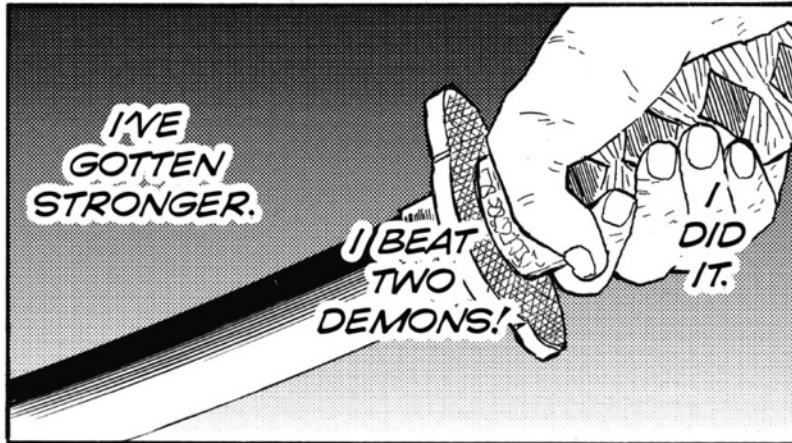
FW
TOTAL
CONCENTRATION
...

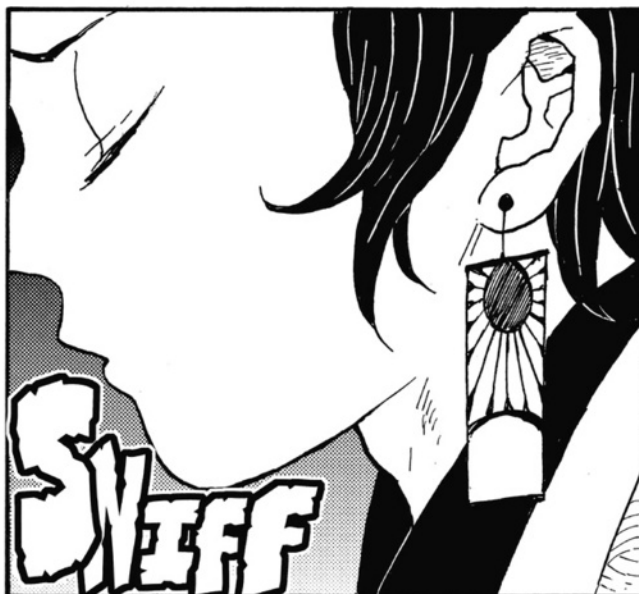




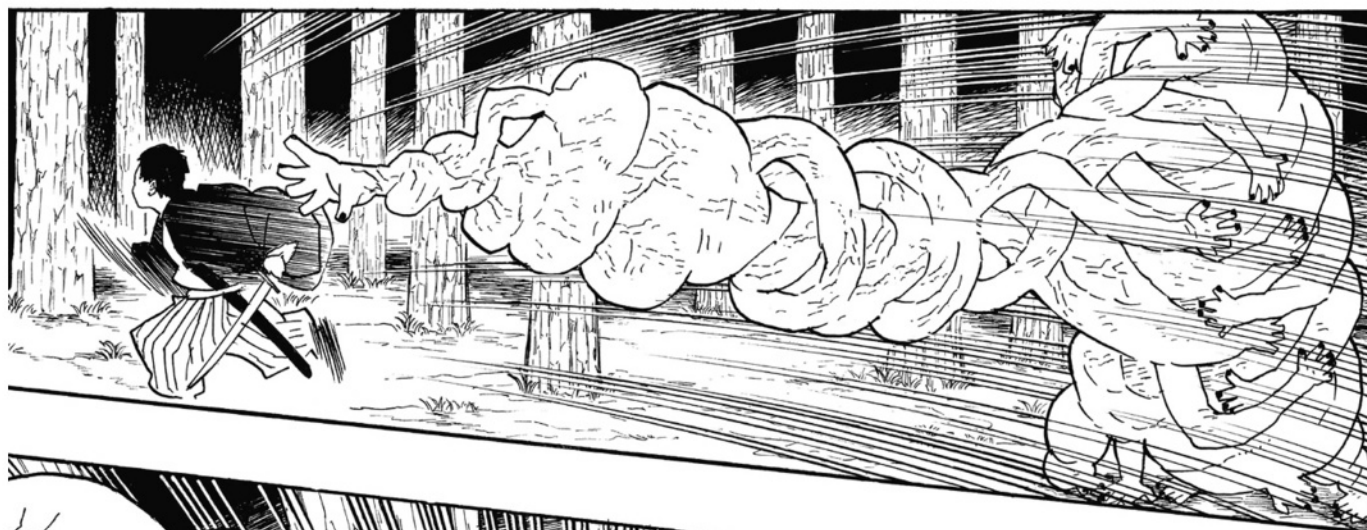
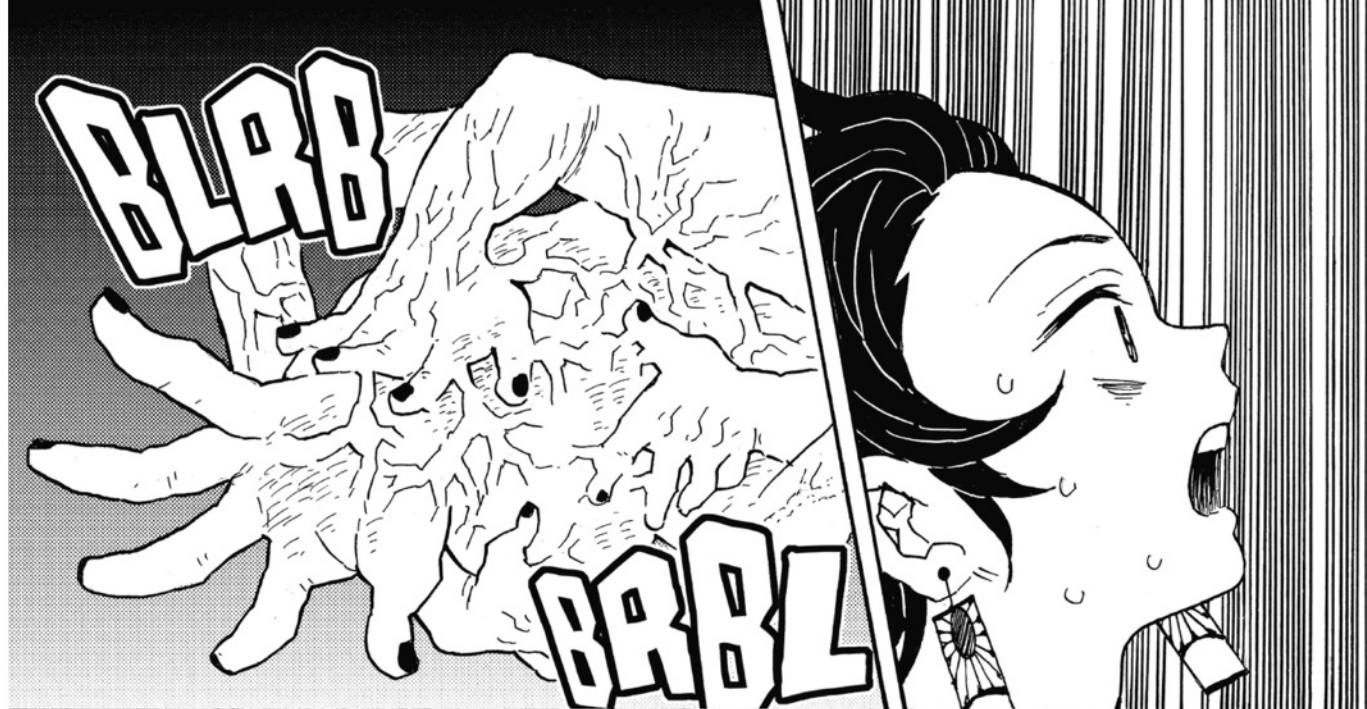
**FOURTH
FORM**

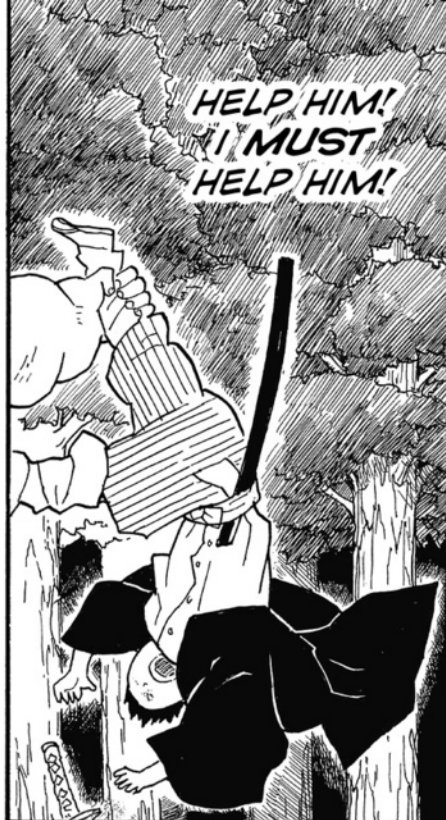
**STRIKING
TIDE!**

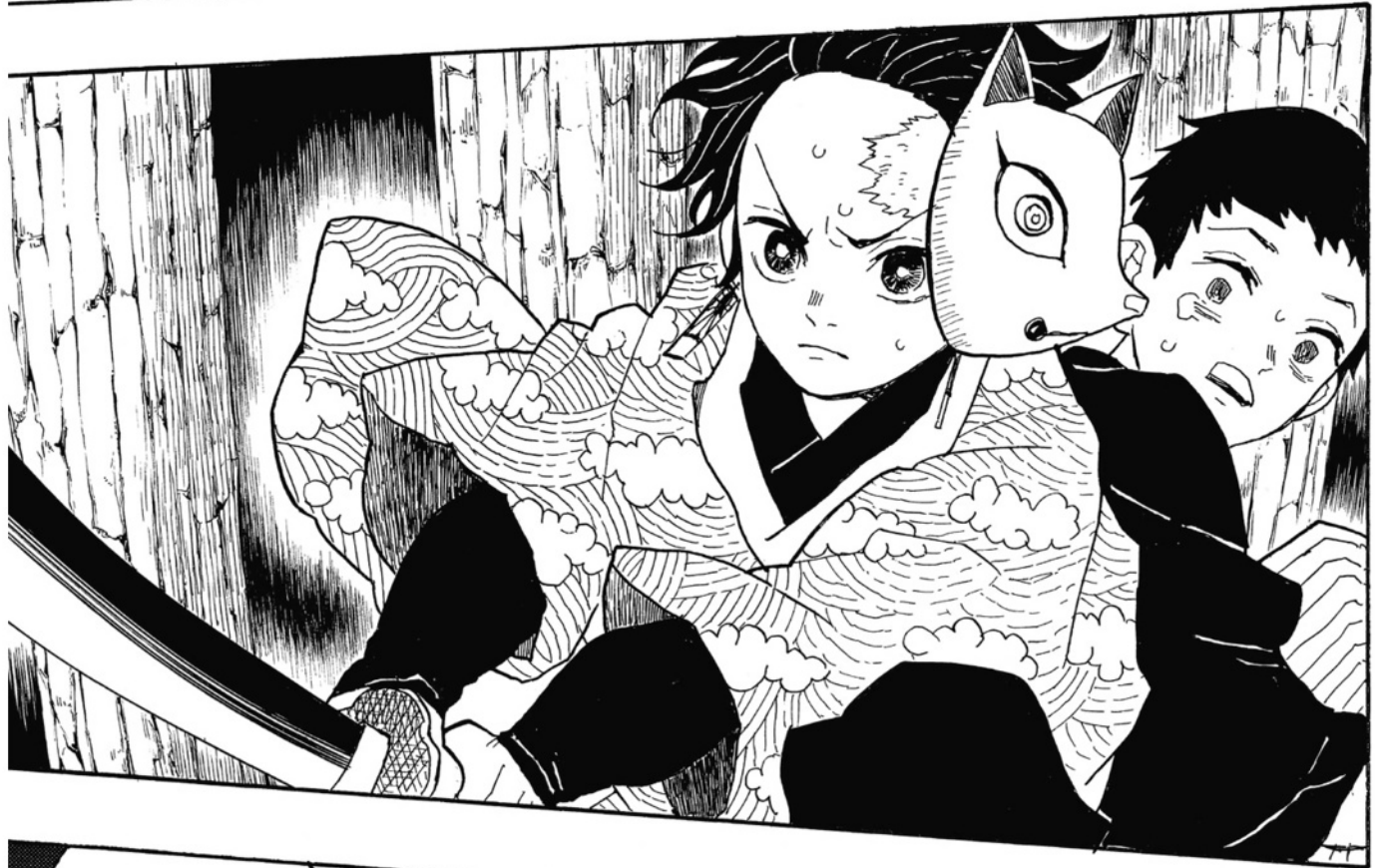












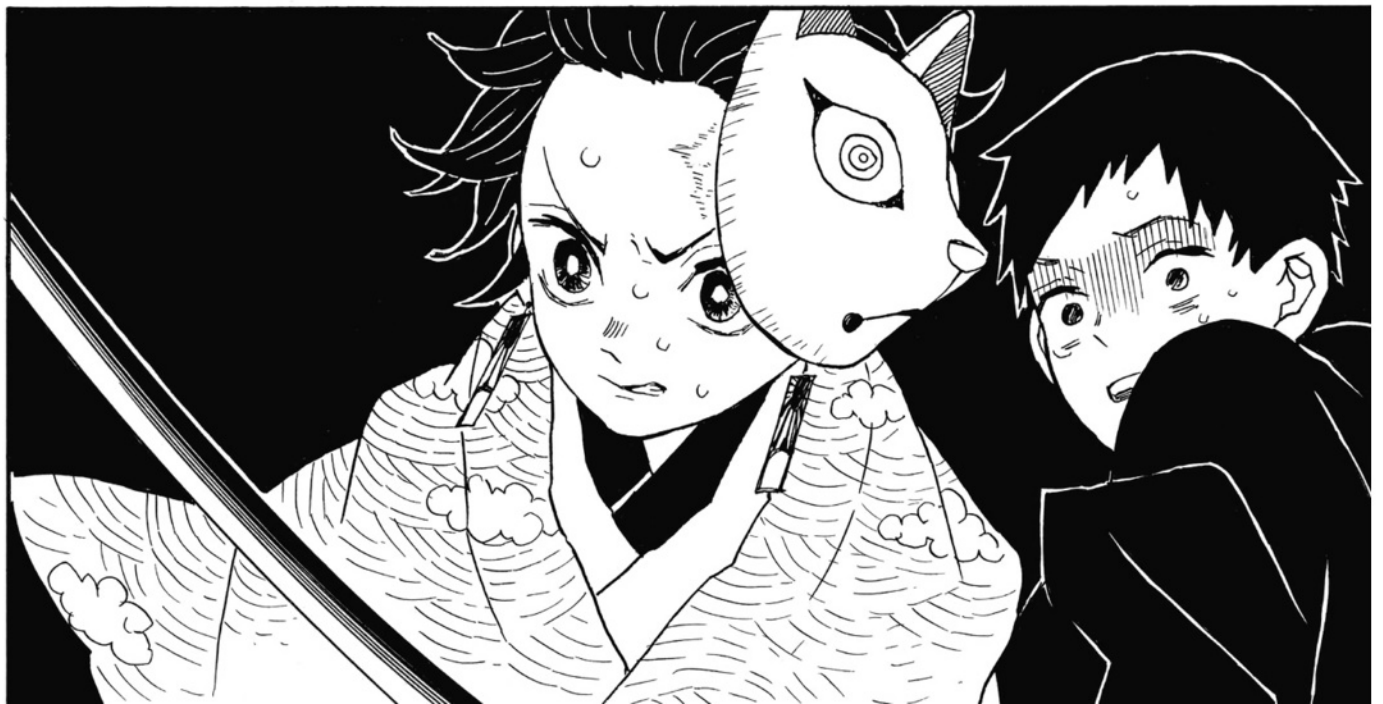
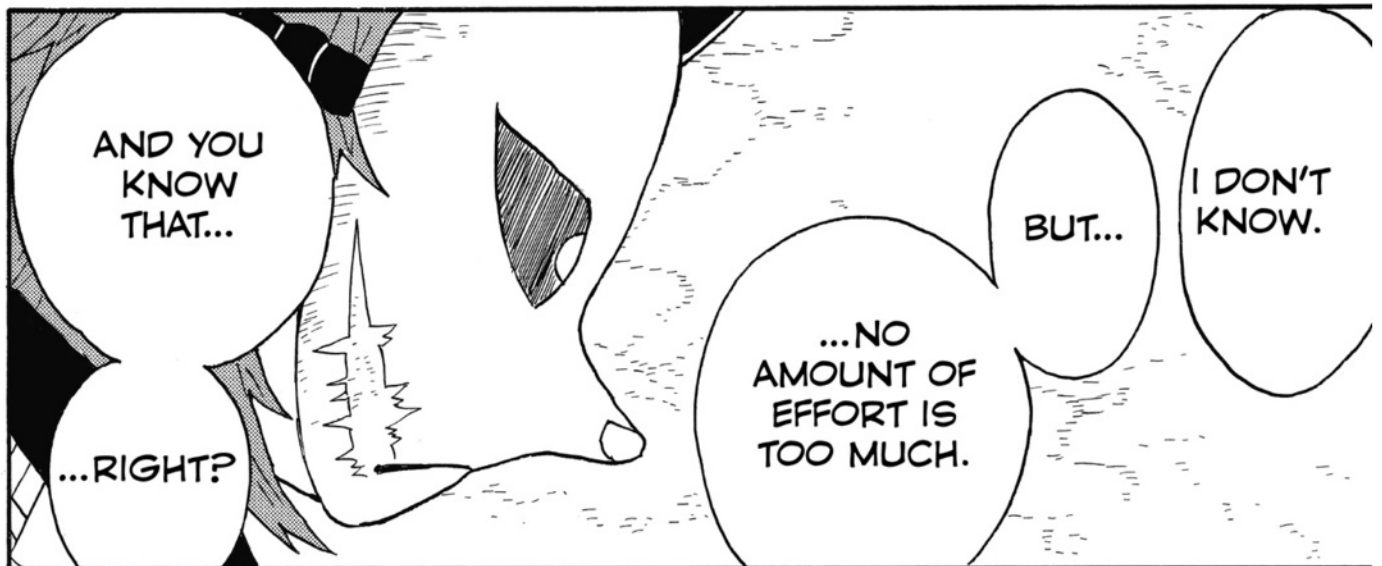
TAISHO WHISPERS
& RUMORS

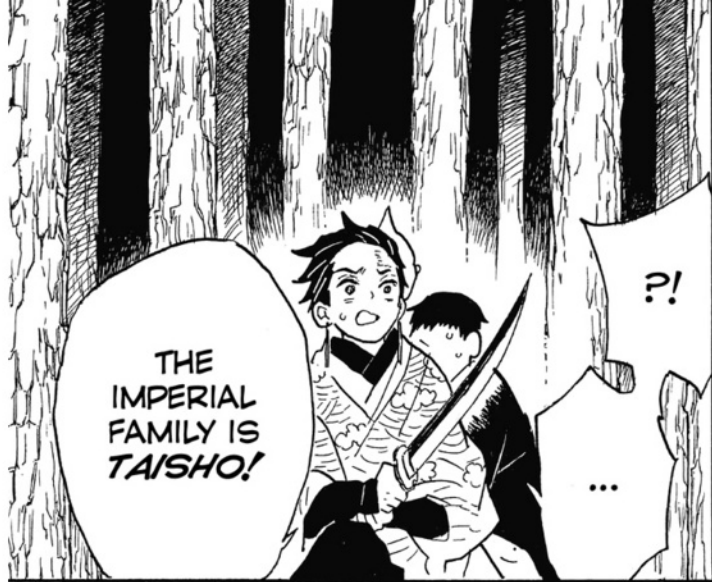


*I heard one of
them is a boy...*



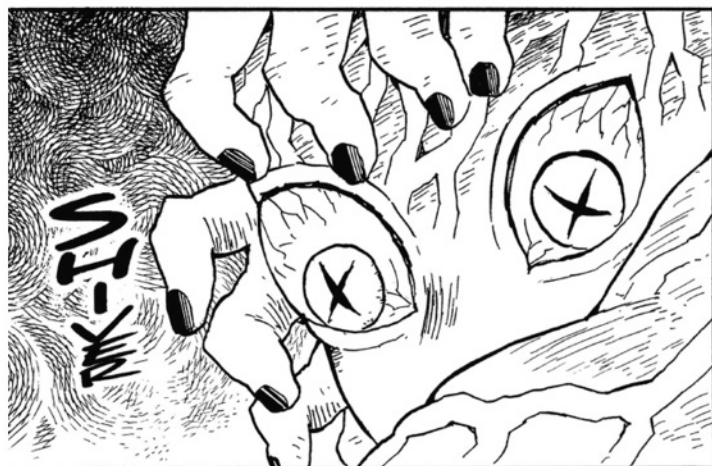
CHAPTER 7: SPIRITS OF THE DECEASED



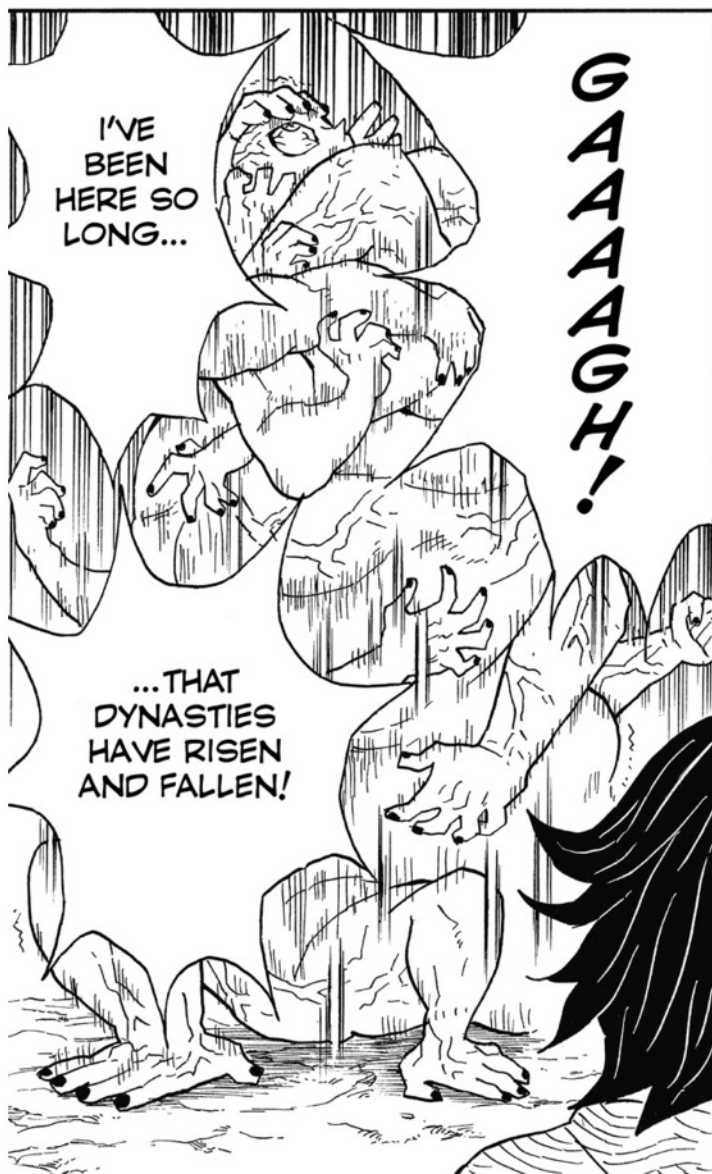


THE
IMPERIAL
FAMILY IS
TAISHO!

?!
...



SH-ING



I'VE
BEEN
HERE SO
LONG...

GAAGH!

...THAT
DYNASTIES
HAVE RISEN
AND FALLEN!



TELL
ME, FOX
BOY...

...RIGHT
NOW...

...WHAT
MEIJI
EMPEROR
SITS
UPON THE
THRONE?



DAMN
UROKO-
DAKI!

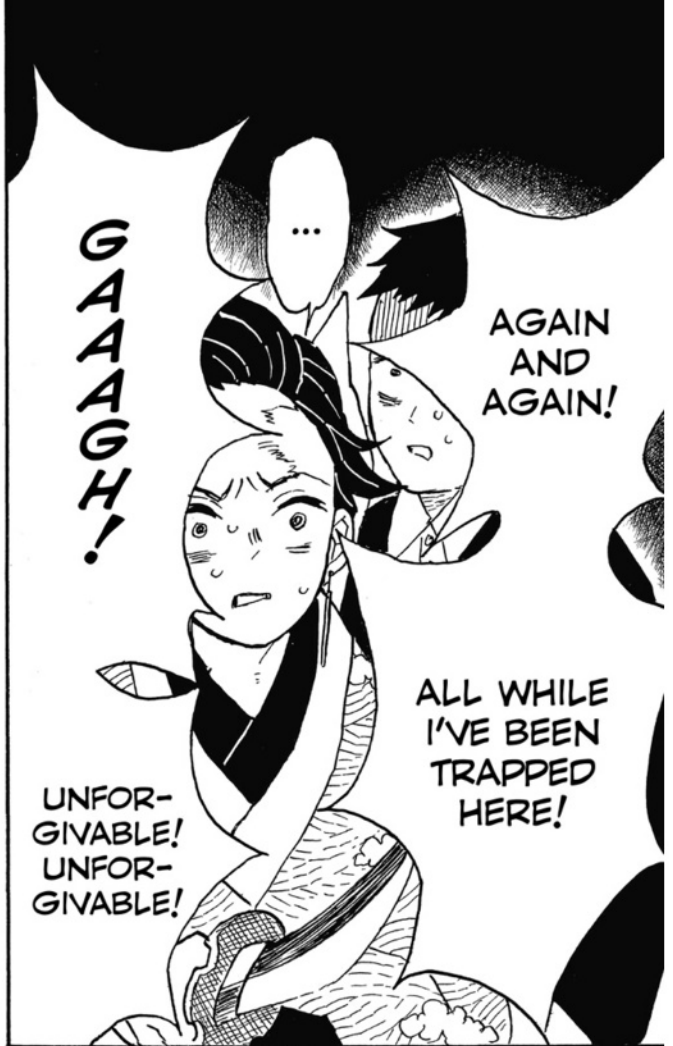
DAMN
UROKO-
DAKI!

DAMN
UROKO-
DAKI!

DAMN
HIM!

BRBL

BLR



GAAAGH!

AGAIN
AND
AGAIN!

ALL WHILE
I'VE BEEN
TRAPPED
HERE!

UNFOR-
GIVABLE!
UNFOR-
GIVABLE!



IT'S
BEEN 47
TORTUROUS
YEARS!

OH, I
KNOW HIM!
UROKODAKI
WAS THE
ONE WHO
CAPTURED ME!
I WILL NEVER
FORGET!



YOU
KNOW
URO-



IN THE EDO
PERIOD...
THE KEIO
ERA!

BACK THEN
HE WAS
STILL A
DEMON
SLAYER!



NO DEMON
HERE HAS
BEEN ALIVE
THAT LONG!

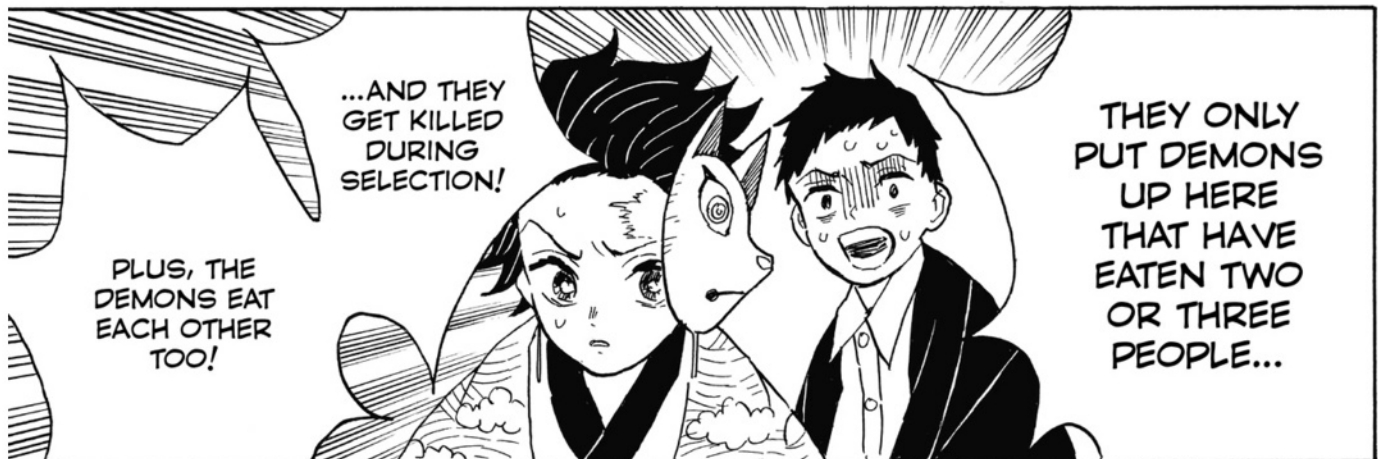
LIES!



YOU'RE
LYING!



DEMON
HUNTER...
EDO
PERIOD?!



...AND THEY
GET KILLED
DURING
SELECTION!

PLUS, THE
DEMONS EAT
EACH OTHER
TOO!

THEY ONLY
PUT DEMONS
UP HERE
THAT HAVE
EATEN TWO
OR THREE
PEOPLE...



...I HAVE
EATEN 50
OF YOU
BRATS!

BUT I HAVE
SURVIVED A
VERY LONG
TIME. IN THIS
PRISON...

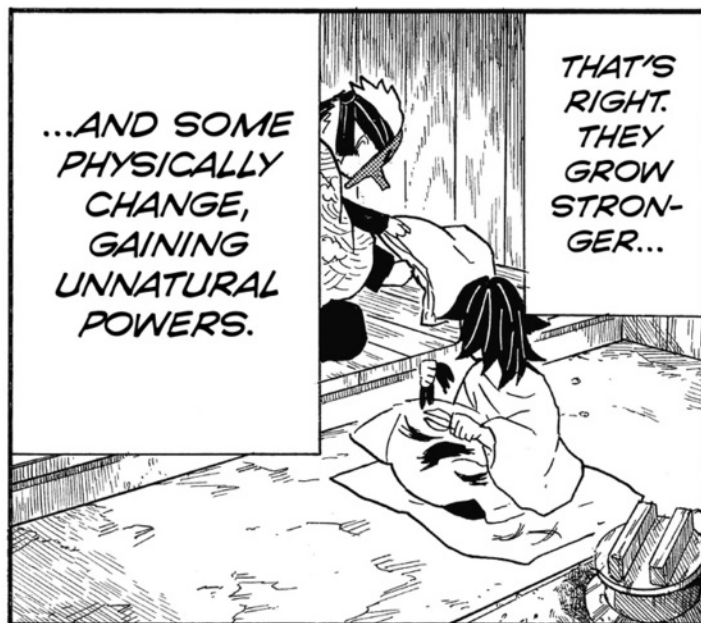
...OF
WISTERIA
BLOSSOMS
...



...A DEMON'S
STRENGTH
COMES
FROM THE
NUMBER OF
PEOPLE
IT HAS
CONSUMED.

REMEM-
BER...

FIFTY?!

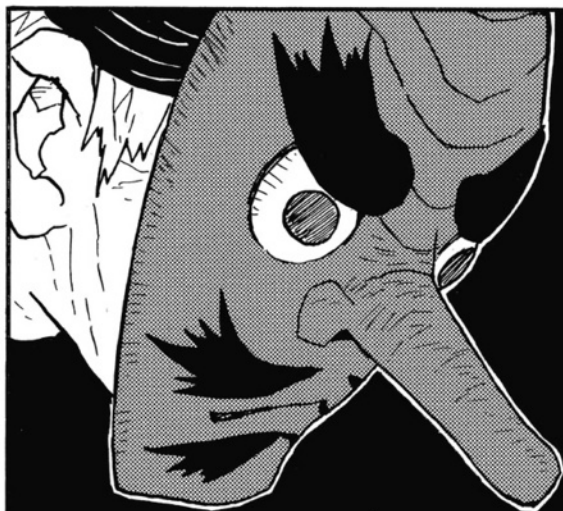


...AND SOME
PHYSICALLY
CHANGE,
GAINING
UNNATURAL
POWERS.

THAT'S
RIGHT.
THEY
GROW
STRON-
GER...

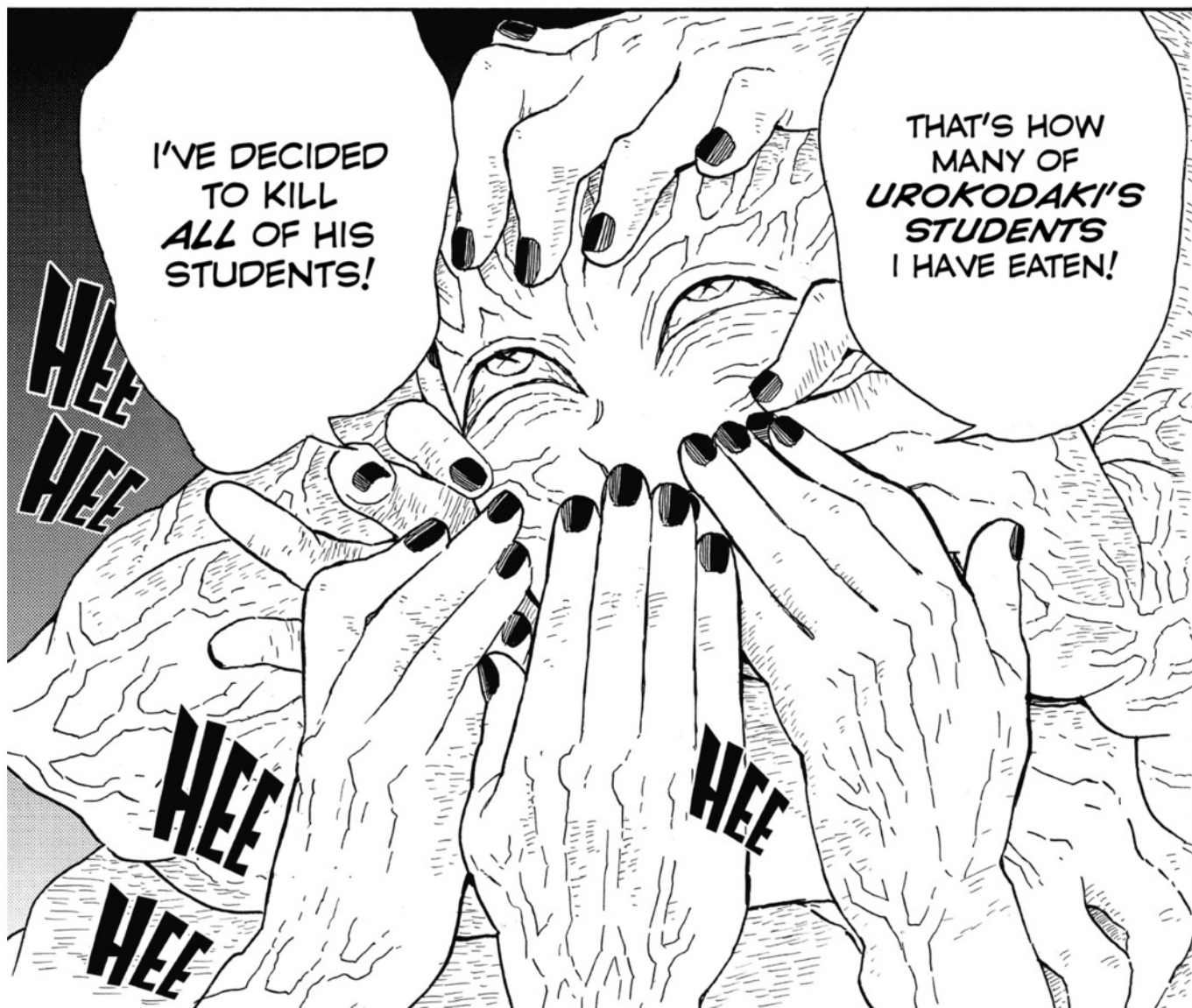


IF IT
EATS
MANY
PEOPLE
IT GETS
STRONGER?



...HOW
MANY
PEOPLE A
DEMON HAS
EATEN.

IF YOUR
NOSE GETS
STRONGER
YOU'LL BE
ABLE TO
TELL...





THE OTHER
WAS A GIRL-
BRAT WHOSE
KIMONO WAS
COVERED IN
FLOWERS.

SHE WAS
SMALL AND
NOT SO
STRONG...

...BUT SHE
WAS VERY
AGILE.



HE HAD A
COLORFUL
JACKET, AND
WAS THE
STRONGEST
BY FAR.

HE HAD
PEACH-
COLORED
HAIR AND
A SCAR BY
HIS MOUTH.



THIRTEEN
OF URO-
KADAKI'S
STUDENTS,
BUT ABOVE
ALL...

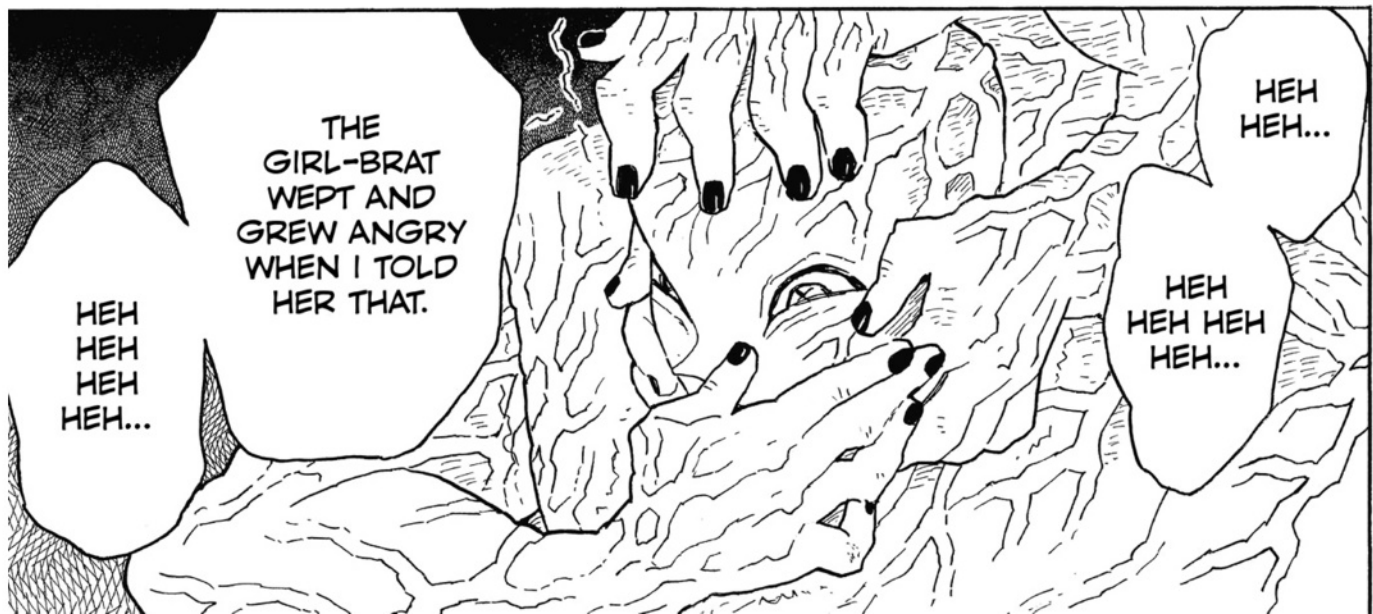
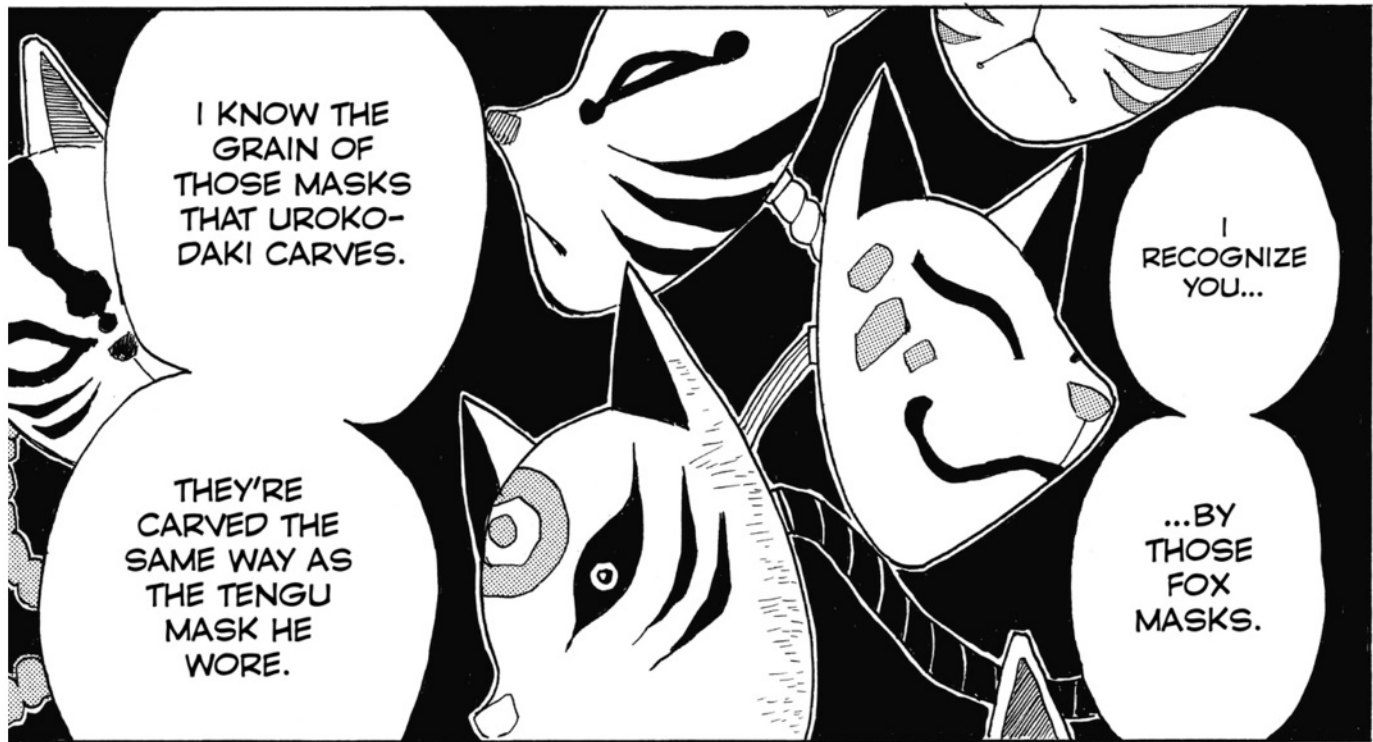
YES,
INDEED!

...TWO
OF
THEM...

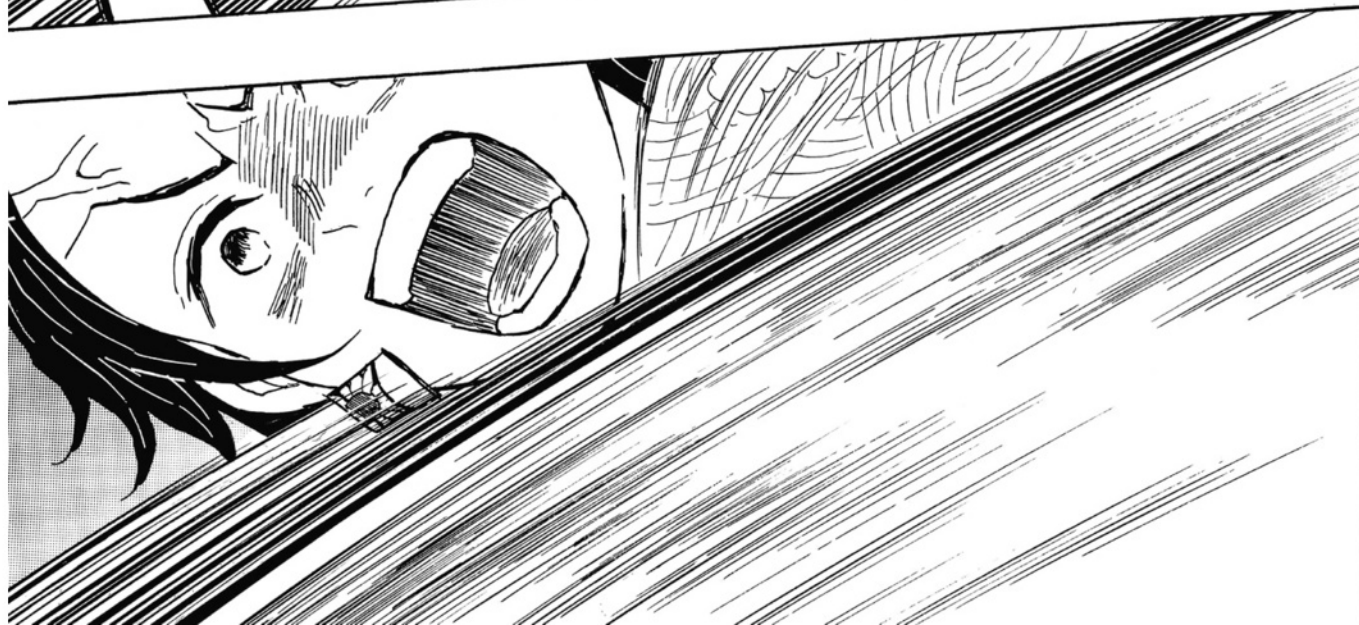
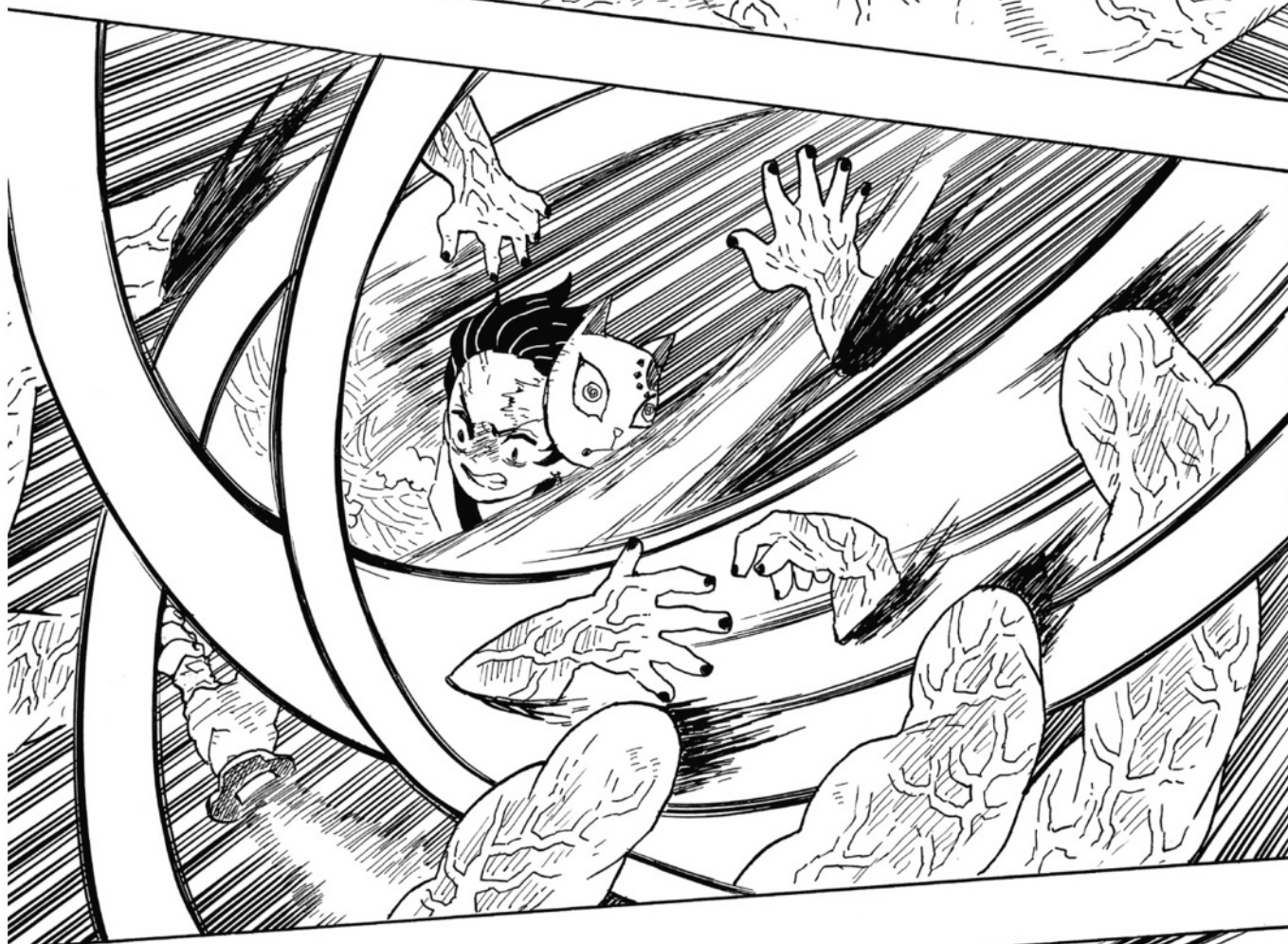
...I'LL
NEVER
FORGET.



*HOW COULD THIS DEMON HAVE KILLED THEM?
THEY TRAINED ME!*















A
STRANGE
SMELL
FROM THE
GROUND!



NO
MATTER
HOW MANY
ARMS I
CUT OFF,
IT GROWS
MORE!

HUH
?!

I MISSED!
HE NOTICED
MY HANDS
UNDER-
GROUND...

...AND
LEAPT
AWAY!
AND
WHAT A
LEAP!

BUT IN
MIDAIR...

**BW
UP**



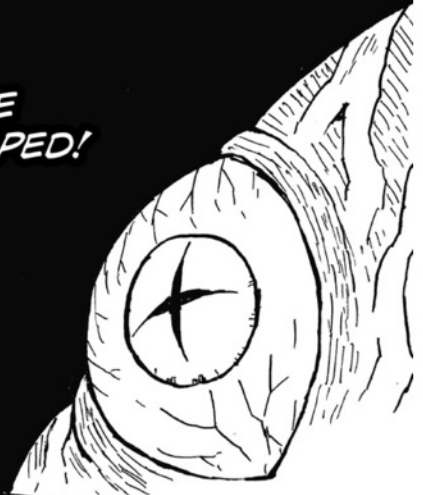


THE FOX-
BRAT
IS IN
STRIKING
RANGE!

I CAN'T
GROW
MORE IN
TIME!

AND I'M
OUT OF
HANDS!

HE
ESCAPED!

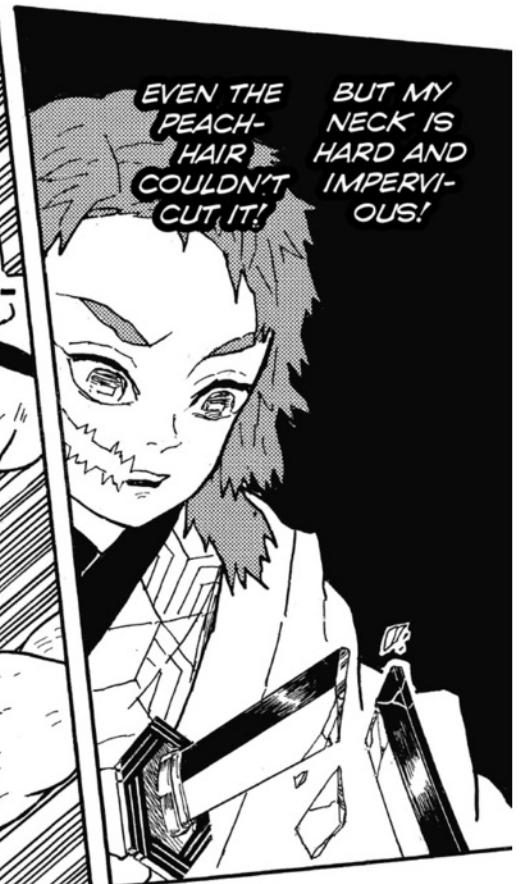


WATER
BREATHING!

TOTAL
CONCENTRA-
TION.

EVEN THE
PEACH-
HAIR
COULDN'T
CUT IT!

BUT MY
NECK IS
HARD AND
IMPERVI-
OUS!



...AND
CRUSH IT,
JUST LIKE
I DID TO
THE OTHER
ONE!

WHEN HE
FAILS TO
CUT MY
NECK, I'LL
GRAB HIS
HEAD...





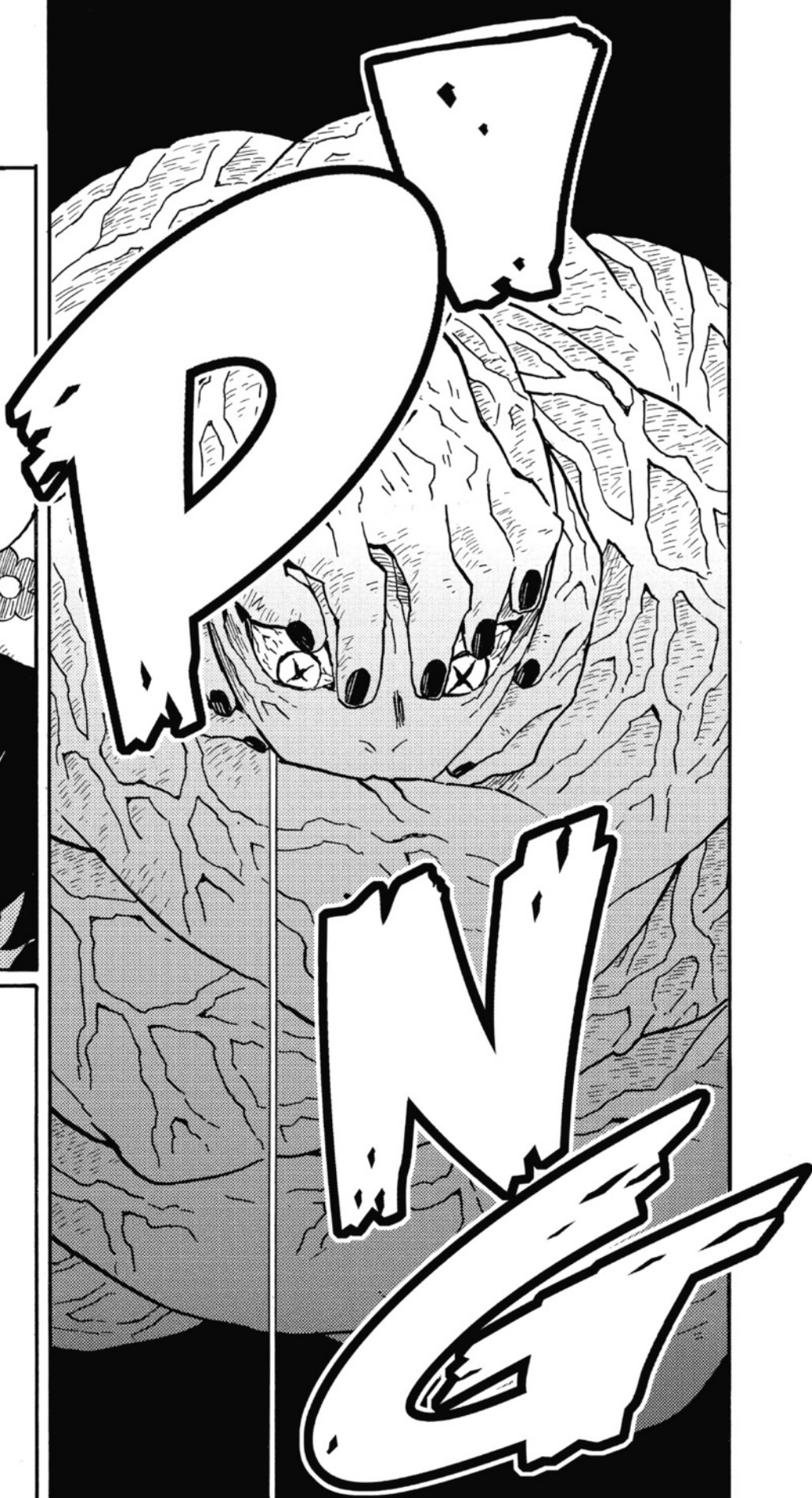
IS IT
POSSIBLE
THAT
TANJIRO
WILL LOSE
TOO?

THAT
THING'S
NECK IS
SO HARD.



HE MAY
LOSE OR
HE MAY
WIN.

BUT ONE
THING
IS FOR
CERTAIN...





HRAAAAH!!

**FIRST
FORM**

**WATER
SUR-
FACE
SLASH!**